

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 FEBRUARY 1982

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported that two car bombs exploded in the Ar-Rawshah area of Beirut setting large fires and destroying 25 cars. The radio said 36 people were hospitalized, including 6 with serious injuries, and that 2 people were killed. In a telephone conversation with Voice of Lebanon radio, a spokesman for an organization calling itself the Holy Struggle claimed responsibility for the explosions, asserting that they were directed against the intelligence centers of the Syrian "army of occupation" in response to Syrian operations against the inhabitants of Tripoli. The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio blamed the explosions on agents of the Zionist enemy and hostile organs.

Voice of Lebanon reported another explosion in west Beirut early on 24 February.

Syria

Recent reports from Damascus have indicated that President Hafiz al-Asad will not be prepared to meet with U.S. Philip Habib if he intends to visit Damascus during his forthcoming trip to the Middle East, KUNA reported. In a 24 February editorial reported by SANA, TISHRIN linked Habib's tour of the region to the Hamah incidents and the U.S. campaign against Syria.

Egypt

Shamir-'Ali, Military Committee Talks -- After meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in Cairo, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said their talks focused on bilateral relations and normalization as well as Palestinian autonomy, Cairo radio reported. He said the date of President Husni Mubarak's visit to Israel will be discussed during Shamir's meeting with the president on 25 February. MENA indicated that the two sides continued to differ over autonomy, with Shamir wanting to concentrate discussions on the interim period of Palestinian autonomy, and the Egyptians rejecting the idea of concentrating on the this period only, stressing that this will not encourage the Palestinians to join the peace process. The talks also dealt with tourism and technical problems of bilateral relations, MENA said. Jerusalem radio said that if the joint Egyptian-Israeli military committee fails to agree on the demarcation of the Elat border, the problem will be referred to higher levels. During the committee's 23 February meeting, Egypt agreed the terms of purchase for oil tanks and other installations and utilities built by Israel in the Sinai, MENA reported.

Detainees Released -- President Mubarak ordered the release of 163 persons detained last September on charges of involvement in sectarian sedition, MENA reported.

Israel

Alignment on Jordan Policy -- Alignment representatives will not join a joint parliamentary delegation which Prime Minister Menahem Begin had proposed to send to the United States in order to explain Israel's opposition to the intended arms deal with Jordan, Jerusalem radio reported. ITIM reported that in a speech to the Commercial Club, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said the Israeli campaign against the supply of U.S. arms to Jordan would be strengthened if Israel supported a strengthening of U.S. - Jordanian relations on condition that Jordan joins the peace process.

Druze Strike -- Although HA'ARETZ said senior Jerusalem sources have estimated that the Druze unrest will shortly subside, 'AL HAMISHMAR reported that the heads of the Majdal Shams and Buq'ata village councils have joined the Druze strike. The strikers are being assisted by political circles in Israel and the West Bank, according to the Jerusalem radio.

Jordan

AD-DUSTUR reported that informed Jordanian sources denied Jerusalem radio reports that Jordan has expelled the entire staff of the Syrian Embassy in Amman. However, AD-DUSTUR said Jordan recently asked Syria to recall its military attache from Amman.

Libyan - Tunisian Relations

Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi entered Tunisia through a southern frontier post at the start of his official visit to the country, TAP reported. *

Gulf Affairs

Saudi Arabia and Oman signed a security cooperation agreement in Riyadh, SPA reported. The report noted that Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said the agreement is consistent with similar agreements with Bahrain, Qatar and the UAE. However, he added, it is more comprehensive than those signed with some other countries. The Ad-Damman daily AL-YAWM noted that Prince Nayif said Saudi Arabia supports the formation of an internal Gulf security force to be called the Gulf Rapid Deployment Force. Meanwhile, SPA reported that Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) interior ministers began a conference in Riyadh. On the same day, Gulf information ministers began a conference in Kuwait, Kuwait radio reported, and issued a statement calling on Iran to respond to efforts to end the war with Iraq and urging Arab media to promote unity.

PDRY

Resuming the trial of 12 individuals accused of sabotage, the high court heard two of the accused confess to having been trained by American experts, Aden radio reported.

Iran

Reaction to Explosion -- In a speech to the Majlis broadcast by Tehran radio, Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani accused France of responsibility for the 22 February blast in Tehran, contending that by harboring "criminals" opposed to the Islamic republic, France has allowed them to unite and will consequently be "answerable to our nation in future." He said Iran will not easily forgive France, which does not do anything without the United States. Meanwhile the clandestine radios Free Voice of Iran and Voice of Iran reported that monarchist groups have denied responsibility for the bombing.

ETTELA'AT on Amnesty, Executions -- Citing ETELELA'AT, AFP reported that Ayatollah Khomeyni amnestied 911 prisoners on 23 February, allowing them to return to their homes. The prisoners had been detained by order of army and anti-drug tribunals. AFP cited another ETELELA'AT report that three Mojahedin-e Khalq supporters, including an Iranian Army battalion commander, have been executed in Shiraz.

Afghanistan

Citing reports reaching Delhi from Kabul, BBC World Service reported that Afghan guerrillas recently shot down a helicopter carrying Soviet Lt Gen Piotr Shkidchenko over Paktia Province. The general and three other Russians were killed.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 037

24 February 1982

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Salah Khalaf Attacks U.S., 'Arabs of America' [VOP]	A 1
Salah Khalaf Examines Arab, Palestinian Issues [Beirut MONDAY MORNING 15-21 Feb]	A 1
Fatah Official Views Expected Israeli Attack [VOP]	A 8
DFLP's Hawatimah Interviewed on Peace Prospects [ANSA]	A 9

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Interior Minister Departs for Riyadh Meetings	C 1
Visiting UK Minister Holds Press Conference	C 1
Departs for YAR	C 2

KUWAIT

Further on Rejection on ADF Allocation	C 3
Briefs: Information Minister Appointment	C 3

OMAN

Commentary Describes Foreign Policy Philosophy	C 3
Briefs: Cabinet Appointments	C 5

SAUDI ARABIA

Security Agreement Signed With Oman 23 Feb	C 5
Prince Nayif Backs Gulf Rapid Deployment Force [AL-YAWM 23 Feb]	C 6
Minister Notes Concern Over Jerusalem Meeting	C 6

PDRY

'Sabotage Gang' Members Claim American Training	C 6
Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad Amends Penal Code	C 7
Fatah Official Arrives, Makes Statement	C 7
Commentary Criticizes Oman-Egypt Relations	C 8

YAR

Fatah Official Makes Statement, Departs	C 9
---	-----

EGYPT

Reportage on Israeli Foreign Minister's Visit	D 1
Arrival, Welcome Speeches	D 1
'Ali, Shamir Hold Talks	D 2
'Ali Luncheon for Shamir	D 2
Muhyi ad-Din Receives Israeli Mayors Delegation	D 2
U.S. Envoy Holds Cairo Discussions on Autonomy	D 2
Meets Egyptian Team Leaders	D 2
Meets With Assembly Committee	D 3
'Ali, Fairbanks Holds Talks	D 3
AL-JUMHURIYAH Affirms Support for Palestinians [21 Feb]	D 4

'Ali on Demarcation of Borders With Israel	D 4
Memorandum on Border Submitted	D 4
Technicians To Enter Sinai	D 6
New Zealand Sinai Contingent To Arrive in March	D 6
Cairo Radio Commentary on Israel's Arms Requests	D 6
'Ali on Peace Process, Arab-Israeli Contacts	D 7
Cairo Daily Views Future of Arab Relations [AL-AHRAM 18 Feb]	D 7
NPUGP Leader Asserts 'No Dialogue Has Begun' [Beirut AS-SAFIR 17 Feb]	D 9
Mubarak Orders Release of 163 Detainees	D 11
Mubarak To Meet Legislators, Party, Press	D 11
Briefs: Ghali Receives Ambassadors; Romanian Muslim Delegation;	D 12
Premier Meets Romanian Delegation; Israeli Tourism	
Delegation; Yugoslav Industrial Participation	

JORDAN

Jordan Denies Expulsion of Syrian Diplomats [AD-DUSTUR 24 Feb]	F 1
AD-DUSTUR on European Meeting in Jerusalem [23 Feb]	F 1

LEBANON

Two Bombs Kill Four, Raise Tensions In Beirut	G 1
VOP: 'Zionist Agents' Behind Beirut Explosions	G 1
'Holy Struggle' Claims Responsibility for Bombs	G 1
Third Bomb, Shooting Incidents in Beirut	G 2
'Arafat, Nationalists Discuss Tripoli Security [VOP]	G 2
Norwegian Commander Meets Defense Minister	G 3
Chamber Speaker Reviews Results of Syrian Visit	G 3
Major Haddad Comments on Economic, Army Issues	G 4

SYRIA

Khaddam Briefs Party Officials on Situation	H 1
TISHRIN Editorial on Habib's Mideast Mission	H 1
Al-Asad View of Habib Mission Cited by KUNA	H 2
AL-BA'TH on Muslim Brotherhood, External Plots [24 Feb]	H 2
Talas Attends USSR Embassy Reception 23 Feb	H 3
Monte Carlo: Damascus Accuses Defectors to Iraq	H 3
Diplomatic Sources on Syrian Advisers in Iran [Amman AR-RA'Y 23 Feb]	H 3

ISRAEL

Shamir Interviewed on Upcoming Talks in Egypt	I 1
Further Comments	I 1
Egypt's 'Ali: Jordan To Join Peace Process Next	I 2
[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 23 Feb]	
Shamir, Egypt's 'Ali Reach Agreement on Trade	I 3
Further Details of Talks	I 3
Shamir: Egypt To Mark 26 April With President	I 4
Sharon Denies Cabinet Decided To Attack Lebanon	I 4
Officials Deny TIME Report [POST 23 Feb]	I 4
POST: Begin Puts the World 'On Notice' [24 Feb]	I 5
Peres Views Relations With Jordan, U.S. Arms Deal	I 6
Alignment Will Not Join Delegation to U.S.	I 7
Pro-Israeli Druze Joining Golan Heights Strike	I 7
[AL HAMISHMAR 23 Feb]	
Sources Say Golan Druze Unrest To Subside [HA'ARETZ 23 Feb]	I 8
Judaea, Samaria Inhabitants Support Golan Druze	I 8
Golan Druze Holding Israeli Cards Join Strike	I 8
Political Circles Aid Golan Heights Strikers	I 9
HA'ARETZ: Druze Undergoing Leadership Crisis [24 Feb]	I 9
West Bank Security Forces Placed on Alert [MA'ARIV 24 Feb]	I 10

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Kenyan Foreign Minister Addresses OAU Session [Nairobi]	P 1
King Hassan Protests OAU Decision to Kodjo [MAP]	P 1
English Version [MAP]	P 2
W. Sahara Issue Casuing OAU Session Deadlock [AFP]	P 3
Delegates Decide To Continue [AFP]	P 3
Eight Delegations Walk Out of 23 Feb OAU Session [AFP]	P 4
Three More Walk Out	P 4

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

Anti-Imperialist Committee Issues Statement	Q 1
Radio Notes Secretary Haig's 'Secret Remarks'	Q 3

SUDAN

Numayri Addresses National People's Assembly	Q 3
President Numayri Relieves, Retires Officials	Q 7

TUNISIA

Reception Held for Al-Qadhdhafi in Safaqis [JANA]	Q 8
---	-----

WESTERN SAHARA

Iranian Foreign Minister Arrives 20 Feb [Algiers]	Q 8
---	-----

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

EPFL Claims 5,800 Ethiopian Casualties in 2 Days [AFP]	R 1
--	-----

SOMALIA

President Receives FRG Parliamentary Delegation	R 1
Foreign Minister Meets With DPRK Vice Premier	R 1
WSLF Claims 50 Enemy Soldiers Killed by Mines	R 2
[Voice of Western Somali]	
Clandestine Radio Reports Deaths in Hargeisa [Radio Kulmis]	R 2

UGANDA

Defense Ministry: Attack a 'Desperate Action'	R 2
Vice President Survives Assassination Attempt [AFP]	R 3
SUNA Reports on Recent Developments in Kampala	R 4
UFM Claims Responsibility for Pre-Dawn Attack [AFP]	R 4
Minister Briefs Diplomats on Shcoting Events	R 5

CENTRAL AFRICA

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Officials Meet DPRK Deputy Foreign Minister	S 1
---	-----

CHAD

Returning Young People Arrested in Ndjamena [AFP]	S 1
FAN Forces Repulse Government Troops 24 Feb [AFP]	S 1
Pierce Fighting Continues Between FAN, GUNT [AFP]	S 2

GABON

Bongo Receives Belgian Cooperation Secretary

S 2

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Obeng Appointed Acting Foreign Secretary

T 1

CDS Warns Defense Committee on Limits of Power

T 1

United States 'Never a Friend of Africa'

T 1

MALI

Moussa Traore Speech at UDPM Congress Opening

T 2

NIGERIA

Ban on Political Meetings Lifted in Kaduna

T 4

SENEGAL

Diouf To Visit Niger, Persian Gulf States

T 4

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Cape Verde Leader Praises Bilateral Relations

U 1

Bulgarian Education Minister Ends Visit

U 1

SOUTH AFRICA

Botha Remains Opposed to One Man/One Vote System

U 2

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Reiterates Stand on Rights in S. Africa

U 2

ZIMBABWE

Muzenda Calls for Self-Reliance, Vigilance

U 2

SALAH KHALAF ATTACKS U.S., 'ARABS OF AMERICA'

JN221801 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] spoke yesterday at the opening ceremony of the Palestinian Steadfastness and Confrontation Institute for Orientation Culture and the Arts which is part of As-Sa'qah's Orientation Bureau. He said: We know that our major enemy is the United States and yet the Arabs of America proceed to have friendly relations with the United States, the main enemy of this nation, this revolution and the Palestinian people.

Abu Iyad continued: We know that their money and their oil is transformed into warplanes which strike at our people in the south, and into artillery and bombs which fall on our Palestinian and Lebanese people. Despite that, the Arab conscience refuses to budget to put an end to this aid which goes directly from Arab oil to Israel.

Abu Iyad added: On this occasion for our comrades in As-Sa'iqah we relay to President Al-Asad in the name of the Palestinian revolution all our affection and appreciation so that he may remain steadfast in the face of these conspiratorial imperialist (?attacks) against Syria in which they also aim at striking a blow at Arab steadfastness and the Palestinian revolution. Abu Iyad [words indistinct] and urged them to stay rallied around their leader and leadership. He also called for a meeting of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front in the near future.

SALAH KHALAF EXAMINES ARAB, PALESTINIAN ISSUES

NC221130 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 15-21 Feb 82 pp 35-40

[By Lydia Georgi]

[Text] By agreeing to form a joint military committee with the United States, Saudi Arabia was "indirectly creating foreign bases" in the Arab world, according to Abu Iyad (Salah Khalaf), the number two man in the Palestine Liberation Organization's major group, Fatah.

In a private interview with MONDAY MORNING last week, Abu Iyad said the Saudi move would encourage other Gulf states to form similar joint committees with the United States, invite the establishment of Soviet bases in South Yemen and create a potentially explosive situation in the Gulf region.

"Saudi Arabia is greatly mistaken if it believes that it can protect Saudi territory by cooperating with the United States," he said.

Abu Iyad also described as "odd" the reported Iraqi invitation to the Egyptian Government to attend the non-aligned nations' conference in Baghdad next September.

"By what right does Iraq invite Husni Mubarak, the ruler of Egypt, without the Arab community changing its views on the Egyptian regime?" he asked. "I oppose this invitation and I believe Iraq was wrong to extend it... I hope this report is not true."

Noting that Mubarak was faithfully following the Camp David policies of his assassinated predecessor, Anwar as-Sadat, Abu Iyad ruled out any possibility of a dialogue with the Egyptian Government before it renounced its treaty with Israel.

So far, he said, Mubarak had changed nothing but the language of the As-Sadat regime -- stopping verbal attacks on the Arabs and issuing "good statements" about the Palestinian cause.

If that was the only change he planned to make, Mubarak was far more dangerous than As-Sadat, Abu Iyad said, explaining: "The fear is that Husni Mubarak may be able to return to the Arab fold and regain Egypt's international position without introducing any foreign policy changes. Therein lies the danger."

Commenting on the increasing rapprochement between Moscow and Cairo, Abu Iyad said: "The Soviet Union...cannot be as Arab as the Arabs.... We have nothing to say about the return to (Soviet-Egyptian) relations, because we do not have the right to interfere in the affairs of the Soviet Union, which has the right to establish relations with anyone in the world.... All I ask of the Soviet Union is to be a supporter of my cause, to remain a friend of the Palestinian revolution and the PLO, to maintain the present level of relations between us."

The Palestinian leader denied recent reports, attributed to a "Palestinian source," that the PLO had received 50 million dollars worth of sophisticated weapons from the Soviet Union.

The PLO, he said, was trying to persuade Moscow to provide it with such weapons but had so far failed and had only received small quantities of "ordinary arms" from the socialist bloc. American and Israeli charges that the PLO had brought more arms to the south were deliberately fabricated as part of an effort to provide Israel with justification to attack south Lebanon, he said.

Rejecting Israeli claims that Palestinian guerrilla attacks across the River Jordan and the Egyptian-Israeli borders were a violation of the July cease-fire between the PLO and Israel, Abu Iyad said the cease-fire applied to south Lebanon only and all other operations would continue.

He said that although an Israeli invasion of the south was inevitable, it would probably be preceded by smaller attacks on specific targets in the south and Beirut.

Noting that Syrian troops were present in parts of the south, he said the Syrians would become directly involved in the fighting if their units were attacked, but if not, they were likely to provide the Palestinians and their leftist Lebanese allies with "indirect help" in the event of an Israeli invasion.

Regarding the Lebanese request for 1,000 more international troops for the 6,000-strong UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), Abu Iyad said the PLO had no objection to more UNIFIL troops in the south as long as this did not mean a change in UNIFIL's mandate.

UNIFIL's mandate is to take over control of the southern land occupied by Israel in 1978. The force has so far deployed in the northern part of that territory but has not been able to take over a strip of border territory controlled by the Israeli-backed militias of renegade Major Sa'd Haddad. There have been unconfirmed reports that Israel would allow UNIFIL to deploy in the border strip only if the international force took over the areas farther north where the Palestinian and leftist Lebanese "joint forces" are entrenched. The joint forces are apprehensive that the Lebanese request for additional UN troops is aimed at facilitating UNIFIL deployment in their areas -- a fear which the Lebanese Government has said is unjustified.

Abu Iyad stressed that the Palestinians had more than any other party sought to facilitate UNIFIL's task in the context of the aims spelled out in Security Council Resolution 425, which created UNIFIL.

"But if the aim changes," he warned, "the treatment will also change."

Lebanon's request for 1,000 more UN troops is due to be considered by the Security Council this week.

On another subject, Abu Iyad denied reports that the postponement of the Arab Followup Committee's meeting from January till March was due to a PLO memo to the Arab League in which the Palestinians declared themselves not bound by any of the committee's decisions.

The memo, he said, stated only that the PLO would not be bound by the committee's decision to stop all arms supplies to all parties in Lebanon. The postponement of the meeting, he added, was precipitated not by this attitude but by "a certain Arab atmosphere."

Regarding the recurring clashes between the predominantly Shi'ite Amal movement and the leftist National Movement, Abu Iyad announced that a decision had been taken to bring Amal into the PLO-National Movement joint command in south Lebanon.

This, along with the revival of the Higher Coordination Committee and the Security Committee, was the only way to put a stop to those clashes between allies, he said.

Abu Iyad described as a "big mistake" the Saudi Arabian Government's decision last week to form a joint military committee with the United States.

"The Saudis should have taken into consideration the Arab world's bitter experience with the Americans," he said. "Who created Israel, and who is strengthening it? [quotation as published] The question I would ask is this: Who is Saudi Arabia afraid of? If it's afraid of Israel, America will never consider giving the Saudis weapons to defend themselves against Israel. Who else is Saudi Arabia afraid of?"

He added: "Saudi Arabia does not benefit by giving the United States this kind of cover. On the contrary, this will warm Saudi Arabia."

"We keep saying we don't want foreign bases in our countries, but then we turn around and indirectly create foreign bases. That is how people interpret this joint military committee. What can it mean, other than bases and facilities?"

Abu Iyad said all other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council might follow in Saudi Arabia's footsteps and dot the Gulf with joint Arab-American military committees.

"This will prompt countries like Democratic Yemen to strengthen their alliance with the Soviet Union and turn the Gulf region into a region of tension."

"Now that Saudi Arabia has entered this committee, which people take to mean indirect American presence in Saudi Arabia, what is to prevent its neighbor, Democratic Yemen, from creating Soviet bases on its territory? Now we have the Iraqi-Iranian issue, which is being gradually Arabized and is diverting our attention from the central Palestinian issue. Tomorrow, the Gulf region, where calm must prevail if everyone's interests are to be preserved, will turn into an explosive region."

"This move may benefit the Americans, but it most certainly will not serve Saudi interests."

Abu Iyad also criticized Iraq for reportedly inviting Egypt to the Non-Aligned Conference which is scheduled to be held in Baghdad next September.

The report, which leaked out last month, has not been officially confirmed, but the Iraqi vice-premier, Tarq 'Aziz, stated in India last week that his government intended to invite all members of the Non-Aligned Movement, including Iran, with which Iraq is at war.

"I find it odd that Iraq should invite Husni Murabak to the Non-Aligned Conference without consulting the Arab community," Abu Iyad said.

"I hope this report is not true, not because we are against Egypt being in the Non-Aligned Movement -- on the contrary, it would serve our interests to have a genuinely non-aligned Egypt. But the question is, by what right does Iraq invite Husni Mubarak, the ruler of Egypt, without the Arab community changing its views on the Egyptian regime? This means opening the door for Oman and other Arab countries to adopt a favorable attitude towards Egypt without there being any change in Egyptian policy. For this reason, I oppose this invitation and I believe Iraq was wrong to extend it."

Mubarak, Abu Iyad said, "may be far more dangerous than As-Sadat, in the sense that he wants to return to the Arabs and regain his international role (among the non-aligned nations, among the Islamic nations, everywhere) without relinquishing the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. That would be very dangerous indeed, and one must be very cautious with this man...."

"The fear is that Husni Mubarak may be able to return to the Arab fold and regain Egypt's international position without introducing any foreign policy changes. Therein lies the danger."

The Arabs, Abu Iyad said, must remember two things about Mubarak:

"First, he was As-Sadat's deputy. Perhaps he was not 100 percent responsible for As-Sadat's policy, but he was nevertheless responsible, because if he had not approved, he could have resigned as several Egyptian ministers did.

"Second, he has not deviated one centimeter from As-Sadat's foreign policy. He is clinging to the Camp David agreements. He has pressed ahead with the Egyptian-Israeli normalization process. The Egyptian chief of staff is in Israel now and he has visited east Jerusalem. When Egyptian youths demonstrated against the presence of an Israeli pavilion at the international book exhibition in Cairo, he had them arrested, just as As-Sadat had done. At the recent funeral of the Wafd Party 'Abd al-Aziz ash-Shurbaji a real nationalist who was arrested by As-Sadat and died soon after he was released by Mubarak, thousands of people marched shouting anti-Israeli slogans. Mubarak had many of them arrested. In other words, he is so far walking in the footsteps of As-Sadat."

Mubarak had introduced some cosmetic changes to the domestic scene and improved the Egyptian Government's language, Abu Iyad said. His recent statements in Washington about Palestinian rights were "good," but "words are not enough as long as the Camp David policy still stands."

He added: "You may tell me, as many are saying, that we should give him a chance. All right, we are giving him a chance. We are not attacking him. Some people are saying that he wants to rid himself of As-Sadat's policy, and we are patiently waiting for him to rid himself of it.

"I'm not saying that we want him to do this now. I am saying that if after the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, Husni Mubarak continues to cling to the Camp David agreements, it is only natural that he remain isolated."

Did he expect a change in Egyptian policy after the withdrawal?

"It is our hope and the hope of the Palestinian people that there will be a change.... In the 1930's, Egypt signed a treaty with the British. In the 1950's, Nakhhas Pasha declared (and I heard him): 'We signed the treaty for the sake of Egypt, and we cancel it for Egypt's sake.' So the Camp David agreements are not an unchangeable 'part of history,' as some are saying."

Husni Mubarak can cancel the treaty and he will if he really wants to return to the Palestinian cause and the Arab fold.

Unless he does, he will remain isolated and there will be no dialogue between the Palestinians and Egypt.

But in the meantime, I said, the Soviet Union, the main supporter of the Arab cause and the arch-enemy of the Camp David agreements, was drawing closer to Cairo, and there were definite signs of a return to normal Egyptian-Soviet relations. Could he imagine a normalization of relations between the Egyptians and the Russians without a normalization of Palestinian-Egyptian relations?

"Yes, I can imagine that happening," Abu Iyad said. "The Soviet Union is a superpower with its own foreign policy, and it cannot be as Arab as the Arabs. It has its own interests. We have nothing to say about the return of relations, because we do not have the right to interfere in the affairs of the Soviet Union, which has the right to establish relations with anyone in the world.

"Furthermore, the Soviets never severed their relations with Egypt. As-Sadat expelled the Soviet ambassador along with other diplomats, but the Soviets did not take any reciprocal measures. So, yes, I can imagine Soviet-Egyptian relations being normalized while there is no dialogue between us and Egypt, because the Soviets have no preconditions for a return to normal relations with Egypt. We do."

He added: "All I ask of the Soviet Union is to be a supporter of my cause, to remain a friend of the Palestinian revolution and the PLO, to maintain the present level of relations between us. As for their foreign policy, I have nothing to say about it."

Abu Iyad denied recent news agency reports, attributed to an unnamed "Palestinian source," that the PLO had received 50 million dollars' worth of heavy armaments from the Soviet Union.

"The Soviet Union has its own views regarding heavy armaments," he said. "It believes that the weapons we get from the socialist states are enough for the size of the Palestinian revolution.

"Of course, it is our hope that we will be able to secure the kind of weapons that would enable us to protect our camps and our Palestinian and Lebanese people. We are continuing our dialogue with the Soviets in the hope that they will give us those weapons, but the truth is that we have not received any advanced arms -- only ordinary arms, and nowhere near the figure reported."

Commenting on U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's recent statement that new arms shipments had been delivered to the Palestinians in south Lebanon which might lead to a resumption of hostilities there, Abu Iyad said: "No new arms have been delivered that can change the situation and the course of history in the south. Haig knows this very well -- he has his satellites, and they have told him that no new arms have been delivered. Haig's statement is meant to give Israel justification to invade the south or mount various attacks on the south. He said this so he could later tell the Arabs who still have confidence in America: 'I warned the Palestinians not to get more arms.'

"All this talk about arms in the south -- the statements that are being made by the Americans and the Israelis -- is nothing but part of the prelude to Israeli attacks on the south. It is meant to justify the approaching strikes -- no more, no less."

Justification of the approaching Israeli attacks was also the purpose of the Israeli and American statements about Palestinian guerilla operations launched across the Jordanian and Egyptian borders, Abu Iyad said.

Israel's threat to attack south Lebanon if those operations continued was "nothing but blackmail," he said. "If we were to let these statements affect us and stop all our operations, we might as well lay down our arms, end the revolution and become like the Arab regimes."

"Next, they will say that if there are Palestinian demonstrations in the West Bank they will attack south Lebanon. We will not submit to this kind of blackmail. We are committed to one thing only: a cease-fire and an end to all operations in south Lebanon. Beyond that, we are committed to nothing. Our other operations will continue. We will go on fighting until we get our rights."

An eventual Israeli invasion of south Lebanon was inevitable as long as Israel was being ruled by "the world's most famous terrorist maniacs," Abu Iyad said, but the invasion would not necessarily come before the April 25 withdrawal from Sinai, as some people were saying. It would come when Israel received the "green light" from the United States, and the United States would give the green light when it considered that the proper justification had been established -- which could be before or after April 25.

But in the meantime, Israel might find it "easier" to mount smaller operations: attacks on specific bases or persons in the south and in Beirut -- "perhaps five or ten such operations in various parts of the country simultaneously," Abu Iyad said, adding: "Whatever option they choose, I can tell them as of now that they will never be able to destroy the Palestinian revolution. They tried it in Jordan, and they found out that it doesn't work."

I asked him if he thought Syria might get involved in the event of resumed Palestinian -- Israeli hostilities in the south.

"That depends on how and where the Israelis strike," Abu Iyad said. "If they attack the areas where there is Syrian presence, the Syrians will be forced to defend themselves. If they stay clear of those areas, the Syrians will be involved indirectly, providing us with indirect help. And if Israeli planes take part, the Syrian Air Force may come in. There is no way I can predict what will happen, but certainly, the Syrians will be indirectly involved."

On other Lebanon-related subjects:

UNIFIL: Abu Iyad said the PLO had nothing against increasing the size of UNIFIL in the south as long as the international force did not try to change the mandate it was given in Security Council Resolution 425: deployment in the south Lebanese territory which was occupied by Israel in 1978.

Lebanon has asked for 1,000 additional troops, and the Security Council is due to consider the request this week. The request was shelved when it was first submitted in mid-December, reportedly because of opposition by the Soviet Union, which cited lack of Arab unanimity on the subject as the reason. Since then, there have been reports that the Soviet Union has changed its position and that the Lebanese request a better chance of being met this week.

"It's not a question of how many troops UNIFIL has," Abu Iyad said. "We would object only if the mandate of UNIFIL were to change, if it were to try to expand the operations area defined in the Security Council resolution, if it were to receive the kind of weapons that made us feel that it was here to hit us...."

"So our question is, what are the 1,000 additional troops for? Are they to change the aim of the international forces?"

"The Lebanese state says some of them will be administrative and others will reinforce UNIFIL's present positions. If this is so, it is a different matter...."

"But when they say they want 6,000 or 15,000 more troops, we cannot but conclude that the reinforcements are aimed against us....

"UNIFIL knows that we, more than any other party, have facilitated its mission, and we will continue to do so in every way we can as long as its aim remains unchanged. But if the aim changes, the treatment will also change."

The Amal movement: Abu Iyad revealed that a "political decision" was taken last week to bring the predominantly Shi'ite Amal movement into the joint committees and commands of the PLO and the leftist Lebanese National Movement.

The decision, he said, was the only solution for the problem of recurring clashes between the National Movement and Amal, which have fought pitched battles in Beirut and south Lebanon on several occasions this year.

He said that in the flurry of meetings that followed the recent clashes in the south, the following decisions were taken:

-- that the "causes of the clashes" be gradually eliminated.

-- that more contact be encouraged between the National Movement and Amal at leadership and rank-and-file level, "partly through the organization of joint rallies and similar activities."

-- That Amal rejoin all the joint PLO-National Movement committees, including the Higher Coordination Committee and the Security Committee, to maintain constant political contact among all parties. Both committees have been dormant for some time, but they are now expected to be reactivated.

-- that Amal become a member of the joint (Lebanese-Palestinian) command in south Lebanon. "Once this happens, any clash that occurs will bring joint Amal-National Movement-PLO forces to the scene of the battle to bring things under control. Such joint forces cannot be formed, however, unless Amal joins the joint command. The coordination committee is for coordination only, but if Amal joins the joint command, Amal members will no longer feel singled out by the National Movement parties."

Noting that Fatah was "the first to help Amal when it was created" and that the Shi'ite movement's constitution was based on support for the Palestinian revolution, Abu Iyad denied all reports of clashes between Amal and "us as Palestinians."

"We have never fought, and we never will," he said. "Fatah is the closest of people to Amal, and you will notice that after the recent battles in the south, the representatives of all parties, including Amal, unanimously decided to have Fatah go in and maintain order, because Fatah is neutral."

On a related subject, Abu Iyad denied reports that a recent clash between members of Fatah and members of the Syrian-backed Palestinian As-Sa'iqah organization had anything to do with Palestinian-Syrian relations.

It was an isolated incident sparked by a fight between two As-Sa'iqah members and two other Palestinians, he said, and it was quickly contained. "Since then, we have had a meeting with As-Sa'iqah, and it was truly an excellent meeting," he said.

Arab Follow-Up Committee: Abu Iyad said there was no truth to reports that a memorandum sent to the Arab League by the PLO was behind the postponement of the January meeting of the Arab Follow-Up Committee, which has since last May been trying to defuse the Lebanese crisis.

The memo did not state that none of the committee's decisions were binding on the PLO, as the reports said, "but it did include a section on the committee's decision to stop the flow of arms to all parties in Lebanon," Abu Iyad said.

"Fearing that it might be understood, now or in the future, that this decision concerns the Palestinian resistance, the memo stated that this decision only -- and not all committee decisions -- was not applicable to the resistance. The memo was a long one, and it may have included some harsh words, but that is something else.

"Some parties in Lebanon concluded that it was this memo that prompted the foreign ministers of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia to decide not to attend the meeting of the committee. But there is absolutely no connection between the memo and the postponement of the meeting. If there were, the meeting would have been cancelled, not postponed until March. The fact is that the postponement was due to a certain Arab atmosphere, and not to the Palestinian memo."

Whether the Saudi-Kuwaiti-Syrian-Arab League committee would make any progress in its March meeting "depends on how much the Lebanese parties facilitate its task," Abu Iyad said. "As for us and the Syrians, our duty is to support the various parties so that they can meet."

I pointed out that the rightist Lebanese front had opposed the committee's decision to stop the flow of arms to all parties on the grounds that the decision did not affect the flow of arms to the Palestinians.

He said: "The decision to supervise the Lebanese coast (to stop arms supplies) is not the most important matter. The important thing is to find out whether the Lebanese front has really decided to sever all its links with Israel. If it hasn't it will manage to smuggle in Israeli arms whether the coast is supervised or not. If it has, the details of what should be done are not important.

"If there is to be national accord in Lebanon, the relations between Israel and the Lebanese front -- specifically Bashir al-Jumayyil -- must end. Has Bashir al-Jumayyil decided to sever his ties with Israel?

"I don't know. I hope so."

FATAH OFFICIAL VIEWS EXPECTED ISRAELI ATTACK

NC200717 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Feb 82

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] deputy commander in chief and member of the Fatah Central Committee, has stated that the likelihood of an attack against southern Lebanon by the Zionist enemy continues to exist, adding that the revolution command continues to receive information about Israel's preparations for its expected aggression.

Brother Abu Jihad added that what is being said about United States pressure on Israel to dissuade it from launching the aggression is nothing but a deception called for by the aggressive plan concocted against the Palestinian revolution. In his statement, Brother Abu Jihad said the United States and its ally, Israel, are indeed preparing for this aggression. He said: The visit made by the chief of Zionist military information, (Yahoshat Shadi), to the United States and his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig affirm that coordination hostile to the Palestinian revolution exists between the U.S. administration and the government of terrorist Begin. He disclosed that (Shadi) took maps worked out for the new aggression which Israel is preparing to launch against the Palestinian resistance and against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples with him to the United States. Abu Jihad noted that meetings continued between the Zionist and U.S. officials to prepare for this aggression.

Brother Abj Jihad added: According to the contacts being held and the information at our disposal, the United States has given Israel the green light to embark on a military operation of limited scope against the PLO forces and the joint forces in southern Lebanon. This operation will be of a limited rather than of a large-scale character because the latter might threaten a comprehensive round of [fighting] in the area.

Brother Abu Jihad affirmed that the Palestinian command and the Palestinian Military Council continue to follow the situation closely, adding that Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] is holding contacts in the Arab and international arenas to harness Israel and prevent it from perpetrating a new aggression.

In this respect, Brother Abu Jihad noted the letters which Brother Abu 'Ammar has sent to Cuban President Fidel Castro, to King Khalid, and to the Arab League secretary general. He said: These quarters, in addition, the Soviet Union and the socialist states have initiated intense moves to pressure Israel and prevent it from carrying out its aggression.

In his statement, Brother Abu Jihad dealt with the statements the enemy leaders are continuing to make in which they threaten aggression. He said: These statements are meant to confuse the Palestinian revolution command, intimidate the Palestinian people within [Palestine], and frighten the Lebanese people in an attempt to sow discord between the Lebanese people and the Palestinian resistance.

In concluding his statement, the deputy commander in chief emphasized that the military position of the joint forces is good and that they stand fully prepared to repel any aggression. Brother Abu Jihad said that he is confident that the southern Lebanese will also be in the same defensive position to defend the land of the south and the Litani water, the latter being Israel's objective.

DFLP'S HAWATIMAH INTERVIEWED ON PEACE PROSPECTS

AAU201958 Rome ANSA in English 1940 GMT 20 Feb 82

[Text] Beirut, 20 Feb (ANSA) -- Italy would better serve its own political and economic interests in the Mediterranean if it were more independent of the United States in its policymaking, according to Palestinian resistance leader Nayif Hawatimah.

Interviewed by ANSA today, the head of the (Marxist) Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine announced plans for a summit meeting between hard-line Arab states to coordinate a package of economic sanctions against the United States.

The heads-of-state of Syria, Libya, Algeria and South Yemen are expected to attend, along with Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat.

Hawatimah, who just returned from Aden where he was making preparations for the summit, said that the need to "react" against Washington's and the United Nations' [as received] pro-Israeli policies surfaced after the Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights and the Jewish state's latest threats to make new attacks in Lebanon.

The Democratic Front secretary-general rejected the Saudi Arabian peace proposals outlined in the so-called "Fahd plan" and said he saw no chance of achieving peace in the Middle East for the next few years.

"The Fahd plan is not the solution," he said. "It does not recognize the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, it does not claim our right to self-determination and all it does, basically, is ask us to recognize Israel without getting anything in return."

Negotiations for peace will have to be held in the realm of an international conference, Hawatimah stressed, "and not in the context of a plan that leaves our cause in the hands of the Americans."

Question: "Do you think peace is possible between Israel and the Arabs?"

Answer: "I see no possibility for the next few years. The linch-pin of peace has to be the Palestinians' right to self-determination and the right of Palestinian refugees, who account for sixty percent of our population, to return to their homeland.

"But the United States and Israel are insisting with the Camp David accords, which do not recognize these rights.

"The approach Europe (EEC) took in the Venice statement is a step in the right direction...and we hope European countries will use their influence to persuade the Americans and Israel to take a more acceptable stance.

Question: "What is your opinion of PLO President Yasir 'Arafat's conciliatory attitude towards Europe?"

Answer: "There are differences of opinion in the PLO, just like in any umbrella organization grouping more than one movement.

"Logically, we are trying to develop relations with Europe in order to promote a better understanding of our rights...the right to self-determination, the right to return to Palestine and the creation of an independent state governed by the PLO.

"Any attempt by the PLO to establish relations with European nations without this basic premise is bound to fail."

Hawatimah conceded that it was in the PLO's own interest to have good relations with Italy, "but we'd like Italy to be a little more independent of the United States."

The Rome government's decision to join the multinational peace-keeping force that will be patrolling the Sinai after Israel pulls out was described as "a step backward" with respect to the Venice statement and said to stem from "pressures from the U.S."

According to the Palestinian resistance leader, Italy would do a service to itself and to relations with the Palestinian people if it showed higher regard for Palestinian rights.

Hawatimah rejected Italian press allegations that the "Democratic Front" had ties with the Red Brigades. "We are against terrorism and any other military actions outside occupied (Arab) territories," he insisted.

The PLO, he recalled, has consistently deplored things like hijackings and the assault on the Munich Olympics and has "no connections whatsoever with terrorist groups...." His own opinion of the Red Brigades, "an outgrowth of capitalism's contradictions," is that their "method of struggle is wrong.... It does not rectify social injustices but, on the contrary, offers capitalism a pretext for reinforcing its instruments of repression."

The Democratic Front's relations with Italian political parties are limited to the Communist Party, although it is trying to get into contact with the Socialists and the Christian Democrats, no others.

BAHRAININTERIOR MINISTER DEPARTS FOR RIYADH MEETINGS

GF211932 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1446 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Text] Manama, 21 Feb (WAKH) -- Bahraini Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah left Manama for Riyadh today to attend the Arab interior ministers and GCC interior ministers conferences.

The Arab interior ministers conference is scheduled to begin tomorrow, while the GCC interior ministers conference is scheduled to begin on Tuesday.

The Bahraini interior minister is accompanied by a delegation that includes Brig Gen Shaykh Ibrahim ibn Muhammad Al Khalifah, the deputy police commander, and Muhammad Jasim adh-Dhawadi, director of the Criminal Investigations Department.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah said that Bahrain will submit two working papers on security coordination to the conferences.

He said one of the main topics to be discussed is a proposal submitted by the Arab Organization for Social Defense Against Crime. The proposal deals with the formation of an Arab interior ministers council whose headquarters will be in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

In a statement to WAKH, the Bahraini interior minister stressed that the GCC interior ministers conference will deal with more comprehensive matters connected with strengthening security cooperation among the GCC countries. He said: We hope to adopt resolutions that will affect the region's security and stability.

He said that during the conference he will acquaint the GCC interior ministers with details of the sabotage plot recently uncovered in Bahrain. He said: "Investigations have almost been completed, and the case will be referred to the courts soon."

Referring to the possibility of the GCC countries signing a joint security agreement, the interior minister said: "This is premature, but we hope that we shall agree to sign a joint or collective security agreement." He added: "The conference will discuss this subject. We are awaiting the results and resolutions of the conference."

VISITING UK MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

GF230508 Manama Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Report on press conference held by Douglas Hurd, British Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, in Manama on 22 February]

[Text] Douglas Hurd, British minister of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, held a press conference at the Gulf Hotel this evening. The press conference was attended by the British ambassador to Bahrain and Arab and foreign correspondents.

The British minister said this is his second visit to Bahrain. He expressed satisfaction over his talks with his highness the amir, the prime minister, the foreign minister, the minister of development and industry and the minister of commerce and agriculture.

The British minister said his talks concentrated on bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them, the Middle East issue, the Iraqi-Iranian war, current developments in the Gulf region and other Arab and international issues. In his press conference, the British minister stressed his country's readiness to contribute to Bahrain's development plans. He welcomed the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council and its positive results. He said the GCC has already achieved more than the EEC.

He said his tour, which will include the YAR, the Sultanate of Oman and Qatar, will strengthen ties of friendship with the countries of the region. He said he will hold consultations and contacts on the current Gulf, Arab and international situation. He expressed his country's support for the Gulf countries' cooperation in all economic and security fields. He said Britain has been encouraging cooperation among Gulf countries for years.

In his press conference, the British minister emphasized that his country has no intention of interfering in the internal affairs of the Arab Gulf countries. He expressed his belief that the Iranian regime is trying to shake the stability of the Gulf region. He said there are obvious indications that Iran is planning sabotage attempts to shake the security and stability of the Gulf in addition to the sabotage plot uncovered in Bahrain last December that was staged by the Iranian regime in order to spread disorder and confusion in Arab Gulf states. He said Iran is also planning to wage a continuous media campaign against these countries. He regretted the continued Iranian sabotage attempts.

The British minister stressed that his country believes the PLO enjoys comprehensive support and that is why it should take part in the negotiations on resolving the Middle East problem. He said that Israel and the PLO should recognize each other and that his country supports the Palestinian right to self-determination and Israel's right to exist. He indicated the European countries are interested in achieving a peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem satisfactory to all parties. He said the European countries will try to bring together all the conflicting parties for negotiations. He said he discussed with Bahraini Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah the effect the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai next April will have on the Middle East problem. He stressed the importance of bringing the conflicting parties together and establishing a more comprehensive peace than that of Camp David. He expressed hope that the Gulf war will end, however, he ruled out the possibility that the end is near. He said his country supports the moves to end this war which were resumed this week by Olof Palme, the UN secretary general's envoy. He denied that his country has its own initiative for ending the war.

At the end of his press conference, the British minister noted that his country joined the United Nations in condemning Israel's decision to annex the Syrian Golan Heights. He said Britain considers this step to be a contravention of all international laws.

Departs for YAR

GF230951 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0615 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Manama, 23 Feb (WAKH) -- Douglas Hurd, British minister of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, left Manama for the YAR last night following a 1-day visit to Bahrain as part of a tour of a number of Arab countries. During the visit, Douglas Hurd held talks with Bahraini officials on bilateral relations and current Arab and international developments, particularly the Palestinian cause.

KUWAITFURTHER ON REJECTION OF ADF ALLOCATION

LD231306 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1225 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 23 Feb (KUNA) -- The Kuwaiti National Assembly today rejected a government bill calling for the allocation of \$48 million from the general state reserves to cover Kuwait's share in the fund for financing the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] in Lebanon.

The assembly agreed to discuss the fourth report by the Foreign Affairs Committee which rejected the government's proposal to allocate the above sum for the Arab Deterrent Forces, as an urgent measure, during its ordinary session today.

At a meeting last Sunday, the committee unanimously and categorically rejected the government proposal because the Arab Deterrent Force has departed from the terms given to it by the Arab League and because the Arab Deterrent Force has become a Syrian force, working to implement the Syrian Government's objectives in Lebanon -- which conflicts with Lebanon's national sovereignty, Arab fraternity and pan-Arab interests.

At its meeting today, the assembly rejected the bill by 27 votes to 7, with 5 abstentions.

BRIEFS

INFORMATION MINISTER APPOINTMENT -- Kuwait Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah was also appointed information minister under a decree published today. Shaykh Sabah has been acting information minister since the present Kuwaiti Cabinet was formed in March 1981. [Text] [Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 10 Feb 82 p 1 GF]

OMANCOMMENTARY DESCRIBES FOREIGN POLICY PHILOSOPHY

EA232352 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1320 GMT 23 Feb 82

["Under the Spotlight" program prepared by Mamduh Isma'il]

[Excerpts] Brothers, anyone who follows Oman's foreign policy will have seen that it is based on a certain philosophy, pursues a harmonious course and constitutes an integrated whole, with effects reaching far into the sultanate and the farthest corners of the earth.

This philosophy, adopted by the Omani leadership out of full conviction, and ably applied, holds that the future of the world lies in peaceful coexistence and constructive cooperation by all mankind. Oman sees in this philosophy a model for equitable international relations and an achievement of international stability and consequently, the prosperity of people. For these reasons we reject everything that contradicts this philosophy. We reject violence, terrorism and war because they threaten international security and peace and cause nations to divert a major part of their resources to the purchase of arms. There is no doubt that this is at the expense of the peoples' prosperity.

Our philosophy rejects tension and exposes those who create such tension between nations, just as it exposes all those who covet other peoples' lands and resources, who attempt to impose their ideas on them and who interfere in the internal affairs of other nations.

This philosophy, however, stands on a basic foundation which is inseparable from and is necessary to its application. The foundation is individual strength which safeguards security and maintains peace. In the final analysis such strength is an important factor to be taken into account by those who threaten security and attempt to disturb the peace. And in the end, we can say that the philosophy behind Oman's foreign policy has far-reaching effects in Oman and beyond.

We have been linking this philosophy and its applications for the past 11 years. Now, since politics is always concerned with new events and since the new is linked to previous events, Oman's current position confirms this philosophy. This position is reflected in the following:

1. Within a period of 5 days Oman welcomed Egypt's president and the president of the YAR. The visit by the Egyptian president was a demonstration of the depth of the fraternal Arab relations between the two countries which will enable them to consolidate Arab peace and solidarity. It was also a score for peace in the Middle East, while ensuring the restoration of usurped Arab rights and, above all, Palestinian rights.

The YAR president's visit is an expression of the depth of regional Arab relations. Oman's participation in development projects in North Yemen represents support for that Arab country, subjected as it is to numerous pressures. Our support will lessen the pressure to some extent and reduce the possibilities of destabilization in one part of the peninsula. Oman is attempting to increase these efforts for peace.

2. The sultanate's participation in the meeting of Arab interior ministers which ended yesterday in Riyadh and its participation as a member of the GCC at the meeting of council interior ministers which begins in Riyadh today are efforts in the same direction.

The first meeting confirmed the sultanate's interest in entrenching security in the Arab homeland out of the conviction that security has a part to play in achieving inter-Arab amity, thus enabling the Arab states to pay greater attention to internal development problems through the widening of cooperation, as well as helping them face external threats and pressing national issues.

The meeting of the GCC interior ministers and the possibility of its leading to a collective security pact will confirm that the sultanate has always considered security as the first priority, being aware that threats to the Gulf Arab states could assume different hues and guises, including internal terrorist operations.

The recent conspiracy against the fraternal State of Bahrain thrust the issue of internal Gulf security into the limelight. The sultanate, like Bahrain and the other GCC members, is interested in maintaining internal security and strengthening national unity, because this is fundamental to the security required for internal construction, which will lead to regional security and peace.

The states in this region are now actually on the threshold of a new age full of hope but requiring positive cooperation and the giving of prominence to the steps which have already been taken to ensure the prosperity of the peoples in the region and to preserve their security and stability. Everyone should know that Oman and its brothers in the Gulf and the Arabian peninsula have no designs or hostile intentions toward anyone, nor do they reject friendship with anyone.

3. The sultanate has an interest in its armed forces as a contribution to the safety of the homeland and a safeguard against danger. It is also interested in taking this force into a wider circle, that is, the Gulf circle. Meetings of the chiefs of general staff of the GCC member states' armies have already taken place, and a meeting of the defense ministers was held last month. Cooperation and coordination in defense matters require careful planning and ceaseless efforts to cover the whole region, protecting GCC members from threats from near and far.

What has so far been achieved indicates that the plans will be completed. Every step taken in the sphere of defense will enhance the entrenchment of Gulf security and stability. It will also make the enemies of the region think twice before embarking on adventures that may boomerang on them.

Philosophically Omani policy is integrated in terms of principles and their application for the achievement of peace and security throughout the world. Therefore the sultanate upholds the principles of nonalignment and positive neutrality in order to secure the region from international conflict.

BRIEFS

CABINET APPOINTMENTS -- Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman today issued an edict by which Mr Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi will be appointed deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs. Mr Yusif al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Foreign Affairs Ministry under secretary, will replace Mr az-Zawawi as minister of state for foreign affairs. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1450 GMT 18 Feb GF]

SAUDI ARABIA

SECURITY AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH OMAN 23 FEB

LD231926 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Excerpts] This afternoon, a security cooperation agreement was signed with the Sultanate of Oman at the Ministry of the Interior in Riyadh. The agreement was signed by Interior Minister His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Omani Interior Minister Badr Ibn Su'ud al Bu Sa'id.

Prince Nayif stated that the agreement regulates the existing cooperation between the two sister countries in the areas of information exchanges, borders and the extradition of criminals. The agreement also regulates security and all forms of cooperation between the interior ministries in the two countries. The agreement, he said, will expand this cooperation. He stressed that the security of the two countries is one and the same and that the security machinery in them will pursue, through joint operations, anyone harming this security. He hoped that the agreement will give the desired results.

Prince Nayif explained that the agreement is in line with those signed with Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. He described the agreement as being more comprehensive than those signed with some other sister countries. He said he hopes that in the future security agreements will be signed between the Gulf states and other Arab countries similar to those the kingdom has signed. The Gulf, he said, is a part of the Arab nation, and such an action is a step toward the solidarity-action among the Arab states. He stressed that these agreements will give the practical results which will enable security officials in each country to carry out their duties and to realize genuine scientific cooperation. He also stressed that these agreements will deepen relations in various fields.

Referring to the first conference of the Gulf Cooperation Council interior ministers, Prince Nayif said that no aspect of security will be left undiscussed.

The Omani interior minister said after the signing of the agreement that the Gulf is the security of the member states of the council. This is a matter which concerns all. Referring to the Strait of Hormuz which is a part of Omani territorial waters and territory, the Omani minister explained that his country is carrying out the necessary protection of the strait. He said that Oman has explained its views on support to enable the sultanate to protect the strait. He said there is great understanding on all matters.

Regarding an Omani position paper to be put before the council, he said there is an agenda which has been prepared by the council's secretariat in coordination with its states. The agenda covers everything which needs to be discussed.

PRINCE NAYIF BACKS GULF RAPID DEPLOYMENT FORCE

GF231418 Ad-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 23 Feb 82 p 1

[Excerpt] Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has said that Saudi Arabia supports the formation of a Gulf internal security force to defend Gulf security and to be called the Gulf Rapid Deployment Force [Quwwat at-Tadakhkhul as-Sari' al-Khalijiyah].

MINISTER NOTES CONCERN OVER JERUSALEM MEETING

LD221744 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs that morning received a delegation of the socialist group in the European Parliament led by Mr Ernest Gelin, which is currently visiting the kingdom. During the meeting questions of mutual interest and relations between the Arab world and the European Community were reviewed. Prince Saud al-Faysal expressed the kingdom's and the Arab countries' concern over the European Parliament Political Committee decision to hold its next meeting in occupied Jerusalem next May. Holding this meeting in Jerusalem will have negative repercussions on relations between the Arab countries and the European Community.

PDRY

'SABOTAGE GANG' MEMBERS CLAIM AMERICAN TRAINING

EA232052 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] This morning the republic's high court resumed the trial of the 12 individuals of the sabotage gang. Today the court completed hearing the testimony of 'Ali 'Abdallah Dahmash, who answered more questions from the court, the prosecution and the defense.

Afterward, the court cross-examined the defendant Mahdi Sa'id Ba'awdah. The president of the court read aloud the judicial confession of the defendant which contained an account of his activities, movements and contacts with mercenaries and foreign intelligence agents with the aim of criminally blowing up oil storage tanks in the Caltex and Ar-Rawdah areas.

He revealed in his testimony that he was trained for 1 week by American experts on the map of Aden. His training included using certain dots and numbers on the map to show the transfer of weapons from one place to another and inform his fellow criminals of their positions.

He also admitted transporting weapons and explosives for use in the demolition operation. During this period he received large sums of money for his map training and his reconnaissance of places in Aden suitable for weapon caches.

The testimony of the defendant also revealed that on his return to Aden he carried a message to the defendant, Salih Muhsin. He was also told to ask Salih Muhsin if he had received the aforementioned explosives to be used in the crime. He also contacted some individuals in the gang in accordance with instructions received from the mercenaries abroad.

Then the defendant, Abbas Sa'id Muhammad (Aghbari) was cross-examined. The president of the court read the judicial confession of the defendant, which showed his involvement and contacts with agents and mercenaries and training by American experts to carry out the criminal scheme. The defendant admitted that his role was to transport explosives into Aden and deliver them to Salih Muhsin for implementation of the crime. He trained on the map of Aden and on reconnaissance and investigation work. He admitted that he returned to Aden afterward and delivered the weapons to the one who was to hide them.

Following the reading of the judicial confession the president of the court declared court adjourned until tomorrow morning.

CHAIRMAN 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD AMENDS PENAL CODE

EA182322 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Summary] Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has decreed that Article 173 of Penal Code 3 of 1976 be amended to read as follows: "Anyone committing one of the acts specified in Articles 169, 170 and 171 shall be punished by imprisonment for a term of not less than 5 years or by execution if one of the following circumstances exists: A) if public property is extensively damaged, B) if the perpetrator is the organizer of a crime or if the act is perpetrated by several people and that becomes [word indistinct] of the action, or C) if the act is repeated more than once."

FATAH OFFICIAL ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

LD191622 Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Feb 82

[Text] Aden, 19 Feb (ANA) -- Sakhr Abu Nizar, secretary general of the Fatah Revolutionary Council and envoy of the commander in chief of the Palestine revolution armed forces, arrived in Aden this afternoon from San'a'. He was welcomed at the airport by Deputy Foreign Minister Muhammad Ghalib Ahmad and PLO representative 'Abbas Zaki.

In a statement to ANA, Abu Nizar said: We are visiting this fraternal country to acquaint the brothers in the YSP and the revolutionary government with the latest developments in the political and military situation, the developments on the Lebanese arena and occupied Palestine in the light of the concentrated Zionist military forces, and the successive threats made by the Zionist enemy commanders to detract from the steadfastness of the revolution which is consistent with that of the National Movement and the Lebanese forces and Syria. These forces are being concentrated in accordance with the Zionist imperialist plan as reflected by the U.S. secretary of state's plan to widen the scope of the UN emergency forces, increase their number and change their mission so they can become a force of deterrence and not of peace in an attempt to liquidate the armed presence of the joint forces in southern Lebanon by paralyzing their movement either through an armed invasion, or through domination by the international, deterrent force and the sectarian Lebanese Army, which is in league with Phalangist designs.

Abu Nizar added that the visit also falls within the framework of our anxiousness to acquaint the countries of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and the fraternal countries with the situation and developments so that they can play their required role in the Arab battle against imperialism and Zionism and their agents.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES OMAN-EGYPT RELATIONS

LD191828 Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Feb 82

[Text] The president of the Egyptian regime, Husni Mubarak, concluded his visit to the so-called Sultanate of Oman yesterday. He and members of his delegation had talks with Sultan Qabus and other leaders of his agent regime on the various fields of cooperation between the two regimes, which both have close ties with the United States. These ties include placing Omani territory at the disposal of the American forces in order to further U.S. designs. The talks also covered the situation in the region and ways to bolster relations between the two regimes in both the military and the political sectors within the framework of consolidating the American military presence in the Arab lands. This is part of the imperialist forces' moves to restore our countries to the fold of imperialist domination under new and more flexible facades.

Mubarak visited Oman at the instruction of the head of the U.S. administration, Reagan. He received these instructions during his recent visit to Washington. Mubarak's visit to Oman affirms earlier demands he made after he had given the United States military bases and facilities in his country to the effect that the U. S. provide military support for Oman. This demand is not intended to serve Egypt or Oman; it is intended to protect the strategic economic and military interests of American imperialism and to serve the efforts exerted by these regimes -- which are allies of imperialism -- to crush and liquidate the progressive regimes in the area, the foremost of which is our country's revolutionary regime.

On the other hand, as was stated in the joint communique issued at the end of Mubarak's visit to the so-called Sultanata of Oman, Mubarak's visit aimed at ensuring that the agent Omani regime will play a major role in closing the gap between Egypt and the Arab countries that are opposed to the traitorous Camp David agreement. Oman supports the agreement, thereby departing from the Arab unanimity and the resolutions of the Baghdad Summit.

Mubarak's visit to Oman was planned by the imperialist circles. The visit coincided with the provocative Omani military maneuvers which took place close to our borders and which ended only yesterday. These maneuvers came only a few weeks after the Bright Star American military maneuvers were coupled with a feverish campaign against the PDRY. Mubarak's visit provides clear proof of America's imperialist ambitions and its desire to impose its influence in order to swallow up the entire area.

The fact that the regime of agent Qabus has become an obedient tool of American imperialism -- as is shown by the support for the traitorous Camp David agreements -- makes one ask once more about the disgraceful role of Oman, which is a negative factor in any Arab or regional action that might be taken. The Omani regime has gone to the extent of bolstering the efforts of the Egyptian regime to impose capitulation and squander the rights of the Palestinian Arab people and turn our country into a field and a base for foreign military maneuvers at the expense of the sovereignty and security of the whole region.

Thus, it has become essential for the Arab countries to take a stand on Oman as they did on Egypt when it departed from the Arab ranks and the resolutions of the Arab League conference. In this respect, we must underline the need for the Arab countries to realize how important it is to pool their efforts in the face of the dangers brought about by American imperialism.

As for the PDRY, it has affirmed and it reaffirms its firm and principled stand which advocates peace, stability and security in the region. This stand is reflected in its proposals for a summit of the Arab Gulf countries, the Arabian peninsula, the Horn of Africa and other concerned parties with a view to purging the region of all foreign military bases on land and sea and purging their presence in the skies so that the area can enjoy peace, security and stability. It is for this reason that the PDRY is most anxious to create a favorable atmosphere for safeguarding the security and stability of the region.

At the same time, the PDRY has made it clear that it rejects all forms of tension, threats and interference in its internal affairs. It will not permit -- indeed it will check all efforts -- to detract it from the independent line it has chosen for its political, economic and social development.

YAR

FATAH OFFICIAL MAKES STATEMENT, DEPARTS

JN191524 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Feb 82

[Text] Brother Fakhr Abu Nizar, Fatah Revolution Council secretary, left San'a' today after a visit to the YAR during which he handed a letter to Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, YAR president and commander in chief of the armed forces, from Brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman.

In a predeparture statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, he said: We have explained to the YAR brothers, led by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the latest developments in the Arab arena in general and the Palestinian issue in particular because there are strong relations between the Palestinian and Lebanese fighters and their brother Yemeni fighters on the battlefield.

He added: It is our duty to make our Yemeni brothers aware of this reality which not only affects the Palestinian issue but also the whole Arab cause.

Brother Fakhr Abu Nizar added that he explained to the brother president the seriousness of the Zionist concentrations in southern Lebanon, which are accompanied by continuous threats, and the series of measures being adopted by U.S. imperialism to subjugate the Arab nation.

He added: We have informed the YAR brothers of all the preparations made by the joint Palestinian-Lebanese leadership to confront the Zionist enemy's schemes to strike at the Palestinian revolution and invade Lebanon, the U.S. imperialist attempts, through Haig's statements and designs, to liquidate the Palestinian revolution by creating clashes between the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese brothers, and [words indistinct] to extend the use and range of the UNIFIL forces and turn them into a deterrent force which would clash with the Palestinian revolution forces. Thus, we have put our Yemeni brothers in the picture as we always do because they join us in the battle with money and men and so that we may realize while we are fighting that we have supporters, particularly since we are confronting the Zionist enemy on behalf of the whole Arab nation.

REPORTAGE ON ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

Arrival, Welcome Speeches

NC222145 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2028 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and his wife arrived in Cairo this evening. Mr Shamir heading a delegation, will stay in Egypt for 5 days [as received]. Mr Shamir was received by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Israel's Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason and Egypt's ambassador in Israel Sa'd Murtada.

[Words indistinct] 'Ali (?delivered) a speech in which he said: I welcome Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in Cairo. His presence here today, together with the delegation accompanying him, is testimony to the fact that the peace process which he started in 1977 is still going on, thanks to (?the efforts) by the two countries (?to attain) the results aspired to.

It is to our complete satisfaction that the bilateral relations between the two countries are steadily developing for the benefit of our people, serving as an example of what relations should be among the region's people. [Words indistinct] in self-determination and in living in security and stability.

Our people are looking forward to the next phase of relations between our two countries, since they will serve as a basis for future relations and an indicator of their future development.

Egypt, for its part, is sparing no effort in working to promote cooperation between the two countries and for continuing the tripartite efforts currently being made to attain an overall and just peace for the Middle East problem in accordance with what had been agreed upon in the Camp David agreements.

We wish Foreign Minister Shamir and the delegation accompanying him a happy and fruitful stay in Egypt.

Mr Shamir then delivered a speech in which he thanked Mr 'Ali for inviting him to visit Egypt and expressed his happiness about making this visit. He said that peace between Egypt and Israel is the crowning achievement in their history and what is happening now and in the future must be supported. He added: We will continue to resolve the problems that confront us. Mr Shamir then said: I look forward to meeting President Husni Mubarak and high-ranking Egyptian officials.

Concluding his speech, Shamir said: I hope my talks in Egypt will be fruitful for the Egyptian and Israeli people.

The Egyptian-Israeli talks are scheduled to start tomorrow in a meeting between Mr 'Ali and Yitzhaq Shamir. This will be followed by an extended meeting which will include the members of the two delegations.

The talks will deal with bilateral relations and topics related to the normalization of relations as well as the autonomy negotiations. The talks will be followed by a luncheon given by Mr 'Ali in honor of his Israeli guest.

During his visit, Shamir will also meet with Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din and the speaker of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council. He will visit Luxor on Wednesday.

Another meeting will be held between Mr 'Ali and Mr Shamir next Thursday and will be followed by a press conference after which the Israeli foreign minister will leave Cairo for home.

'Ali, Shamir Hold Talks

NC231333 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] A round of Egyptian-Israeli talks, attended only by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, began at the Foreign Ministry this morning. The members of the two countries' delegations then joined the meeting. After the meeting 'Ali stated that the two delegations reviewed bilateral relations and progress made in the normalization process. The talks also deal with subjects pertaining to Palestinian autonomy, he said.

Shamir stated that he had good talks with Kamal Hasan 'Ali and discussed many subjects pertaining to normalization and some topics pertaining to autonomy. It has been decided to continue studying some of the remaining issues relating to normalization until the day after tomorrow. The results will be announced at a joint press conference.

Asked about the date of President Mubarak's visit to Israel, 'Ali said that this will be discussed during Shamir's meeting with President Mubarak on Thursday. 'Ali gave a luncheon in honor of the Israeli foreign minister and his delegation.

'Ali Luncheon For Shamir

NC231537 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has expressed the hope that constructive dialogue between Egypt and Israel will continue in an atmosphere of friendship, to make it possible for peace to be achieved in the area. This came in the speech 'Ali delivered at the luncheon he gave for Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today.

'Ali pointed out that there are differences of view on many essential matters regarding the settlement of the Middle East situation as a result of each side's interpretation of what was agreed upon at Camp David. He said that Egypt is convinced the differences can be overcome through further dialogue.

MUHYI AD-DIN RECEIVES ISRAELI MAYORS DELEGATION

NC231325 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Today, Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din received a delegation of Israeli mayors currently visiting Cairo. During the meeting he explained Egyptian efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East, which is considered a clear and firm Egyptian policy. He expressed his satisfaction with the progress of bilateral relations between Egypt and Israel in the various fields. He also affirmed that the peace process and the development of relations between the two countries will continue after 26 April, just as they had before. The members of the Israeli delegation affirmed the Israeli people's commitment to peace.

U.S. ENVOY HOLDS CAIRO DISCUSSIONS ON AUTONOMY

Meets Egyptian Team Leaders

NC211820 Cairo MENA in English 1750 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 21 Feb (MENA) -- A meeting was held today between Richard Fairbanks, U.S. envoy to the autonomy talks, and Ambassador Tahir Shash, head of the Egyptian side to the Egyptian-Israeli-American working committees, and Ambassador Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, foreign undersecretary.

The meeting dealt with problems facing autonomy negotiations. Ambassador Shash said he is looking forward to working with the U.S. envoy with a view to reaching something as regards Palestinian autonomy.

He added it was decided to resume negotiations on March first at the level of the tripartite working committees. He stated that Fairbanks communicated to the Egyptians the results of his talks in Israel and his plan for the autonomy negotiations during the coming stage.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy premier and foreign minister, asserted during his meeting with the U.S. envoy that the Palestinian cause is the core of the Middle East question. He also underlined the importance of applying all provisions of the Camp David accords concerning declaration of principles and competencies of Palestinian autonomy which should be a transitional period to be followed by granting them the right to self-determination.

Hasan 'Ali also underlined the importance of Israel building bridges of confidence to encourage the Palestinians and other parties to join the peace process.

The U.S. envoy will leave here on Tuesday for home to report to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig on results of his talks to Israel and Egypt.

Meets With Assembly Committee

NC221454 Cairo MENA in English 1400 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) -- The People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee under Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah met here today with Richard Fairbanks, the American special envoy to the Middle East.

They reviewed the American view as regards the Palestinian autonomy talks.

The Egyptian side expounded Egypt's stance concerning these talks and the importance of the U.S. role as a full partner in the peace march to give momentum to the peace process.

The Egyptian side also underlined Egypt's insistence that the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are the core of the conflict in the Middle East and the necessity of achieving a just and over all peace for all peoples in the area. They also expressed Egypt's respect for all its international commitments.

The meeting was attended by the U.S. Ambassador here, Alfred Atherton.

'Ali, Fairbanks Hold Talks

NC221924 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) -- During his meeting today with U.S. special envoy to the autonomy talks Richard Fairbanks, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali completed discussing the situation with regard to these talks and the problems facing them.

During the meeting, 'Ali reemphasized to the U.S. envoy the importance of resolving the Palestinian issue to the achievement and the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. He also affirmed the importance of Israel taking trust-building measures to encourage the Palestinians and other parties to participate in the peace process.

During his meeting with the U.S. envoy, 'Ali also reviewed the limitations [qusur] of the talks, especially in light of the fact that 1 March has been fixed for the tripartite technical committees to resume their work in Al-Jizah to narrow the gap between the Egyptian and Israeli viewpoints and to try to reach a declaration of principles on the powers and jurisdictions of self-government for the Palestinians.

The U.S. envoy expressed a desire to visit Egypt and Israel again in the near future in an attempt to give momentum to the autonomy talks. He said that he will not represent the U.S. side in the technical committees meetings but that Ambassador Nat Cluverius will continue to represent the U.S. side in these tripartite meetings.

The U.S. envoy is scheduled to leave Cairo for his country at dawn tomorrow, Tuesday, after a 2-day visit to Egypt.

AL-JUMHURIYAH AFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS

NC212235 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2140 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 21 Feb (MENA) -- AL-JUMHURIYAH has reaffirmed that Egypt's stand on Palestinian autonomy is clear and known; Egypt is not negotiating in the name of the Palestinians but is working through the negotiations to put the real owners of the issue on the right track.

In Monday's edition, the newspaper editorially says that naturally this does not mean that Egypt pays no attention to the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Palestine's security [amfilastin] has always been and will always be the key to peace or danger for the Egyptian people.

In its editorial on the occasion of the arrival in Cairo of Richard Fairbanks, U.S. envoy to the autonomy talks, and the beginning of a new round of talks aimed at arriving at a declaration of principles concerning autonomy, the newspaper notes that Egypt's commitment to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination in their occupied territory, which Israel is rejecting, not only constitutes an Arab stand on the part of Egypt but is primarily a question of security for Egyptians.

'ALI ON DEMARCATION OF BORDERS WITH ISRAEL

NC192237 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2150 GMT 19 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 19 Feb (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said that 91 markers have been placed [words indistinct] from the Red Sea to the Gulf which will form the firm and historic borders between Egypt and Israel in accordance with its international borders demarcated in 1906.

In a statement to be published in tomorrow's AL-AHRAM, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: The consultations currently taking place deal with 11 other markers which are a subject of controversy, particularly near the township of Bi'r Tabah, since there is disagreement on distances ranging between 1 meter and 55 meters and the farthest distance being 600 meters [as received]. All these problems will be surmounted on the basis of the principle declared by Egypt that its historic international borders are sacred and absolutely cannot be encroached upon.

Memorandum on Border Submitted

NC221958 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) -- Today, Egypt submitted an official memorandum during the meeting of the Joint Egyptian-Israeli Military Committee in which it stressed anew its stance on the international border with Israel and the need to draw it in accordance with the peace treaty and the 1906 agreement.

Egypt also stressed the importance of implementing certain security measures to secure and protect the borders and prevent illegal acts. Egypt also stressed its interest in and intention to look after the Egyptian and Palestinian families in the Egyptian and Palestinian parts of Rafah and to preserve their property. Egypt also wants to implement the principle of compensations for inhabitants of the area who will be adversely affected and Egypt will work to achieve their desires.

MENA has learned that the Egyptian memorandum, composed of 11 points, has been prepared in the light of the visit made recently by an Egyptian delegation which included Ambassadors 'Isamat Riza and Fawzi al-Abrashi to the town of Rafah to study the situation there -- particularly the humanitarian aspects, in preparation for the redrawing of the borders in accordance with the 1906 agreement and in keeping with its intention to look after the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian and Egyptian citizens who have been adversely affected as a result of the Israeli occupation in 1967 and the unification of the Palestinian and Egyptian parts of Rafah by Israel.

The Egyptian memorandum consists of the following:

1. The international borders must be drawn up in accordance with the peace treaty between the two countries.
2. Security provisions and border protection require certain security measures to prevent illegal acts by any party against another. This will require the adoption of security measures which will be agreed upon with regard to border-crossing.
3. Egypt is interested in safeguarding the interests of the families as well as their property and is working to reunite families of the border areas.
4. Egypt accepts the principle of compensation for citizens of the border areas who will be adversely affected in terms of lands or buildings.
5. The means by which property on both sides of the border is exchanged will be accepted by Egypt until 25 April.
6. Egypt wants to realize the aspirations of the Palestinian inhabitants and, judging by the aspirations of the Palestinian inhabitants of Gaza, Egypt knows for certain that their desire is to return to their lands in Gaza.
7. In the light of the above, a certain period must be set up to provide places for resettling and rehousing these Palestinians who will be moving to the [Gaza] Strip from the Western part of the border.
8. The aforementioned principle will also apply to Egyptians residing in the Palestinian part of Rafah. Egypt assumes responsibility for immediately providing them with living quarters and sources of livelihood.
9. The above is based on the fact that all measures the Egyptians and Palestinians have been subjected to were a direct result of previous Israeli measures implemented after 1967.
10. Out of its desire to provide all possibilities for the inhabitants of the border areas and to give the necessary facilities to safeguard their interests and maintain family ties, Egypt sees [a need] to agree on the manner by which the inhabitants will cross between the two sectors of the town.
11. With regard to the Egyptian part of Rafah, Egypt sees a need to continue using the current services for a certain period of time until adequate services are provided for them.

The Egyptian committee which went to Rafah has found out that redrawing the borderline will entail the removal of 160 houses. The Egyptian side has taken into consideration arrangements for transferring and compensating the people involved. It has also considered the return of 500 Palestinian families residing in the Canada barracks in the Egyptian part of Rafah to the Palestinian part of the town in accordance with their requests and their desire to return to their lands.

Technicians To Enter Sinai

NC221855 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) -- Next Thursday, the first team of Egyptian administrative officials will, for the first time, enter the remaining part of [Israeli-occupied] Sinai to permanently assume their responsibilities of operation and administration of the various installations and establishments bought by Egypt in the southern part of the Sinai. This operation is a prelude to Egypt's takeover of this area on 25 April following Israel's full withdrawal.

This team, composed of 60 Egyptian technicians, will be followed by two more groups arriving on 1 and 8 March.

The installations and establishments which will be operated by these technicians are located in Numaybi', Dhahab, Sharm as-Shaykh and Ra's an-Naqab.

The arrival of these technicians in the Sinai was discussed today during the meeting of the Egyptian-Israeli Military Committee.

Ambassador 'Isamat Riza has stated that the Israeli side of the committee today handed the Egyptian side detailed information on the various installations and establishments located in the remaining part of northern Sinai. He added that the Israeli side has estimated these installations and establishments at \$143 million. He added that the Egyptian side has formed a subcommittee to discuss the information received by Egypt from Israel concerning northern Sinai.

MENA has learned that Egypt will only pay for the installations and establishments which are in good condition.

NEW ZEALAND SINAI CONTINGENT TO ARRIVE IN MARCH

NC222001 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] New Zealand Prime Minister Robert Muldoon stated today that a New Zealand contingent will join the Sinai multinational force in March. Muldoon added that the nucleus of this contingent will consist of two air force helicopter teams. Two groups charged with maintenance, ordnance and supply tasks will constitute part of this contingent.

CAIRO RADIO COMMENTARY ON ISRAEL'S ARMS REQUESTS

NC192045 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Feb 82

[Ibrahim Wahbi commentary]

[Text] Nahum Goldmann, former president of the World Jewish Congress, has said that Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin should accept U.S. advice, just as he accepts huge amounts of arms and aid. Indeed, the story of the desire for Israeli military superiority over all the Arab states collectively has become a story that is incompatible with the era of peace and has led to four successive wars. It also hinders the road to peace and the restoration of legitimate rights.

Subsequently, there is no justification for Israeli Defense Minister Sharon's request to the United States to support Israel's armament, because Israel, according to Sharon, is no longer capable of maintaining an arms race with the Arabs.

Indeed also, if he is aware of the fact that every measure has a countermeasure and that the Arabs might also seek superiority in self-defense, then the only solution will be the road to peace, which the Arabs and the Israelis should abide by. This peace, according to Goldmann's statements, demands that Israel should accept U.S. advice, just as it receives huge amounts of U.S. arms and military aid.

Goldmann's statements to Israel must also be taken into consideration by the United States. Some might depend on the arms race in not abiding by the road to peace and restoring the usurped rights. Consequently, the United States can act according to Goldmann's statement that the United States should impose restrictions on the arms consignments to the Middle East.

As Israel is receiving huge amounts of U.S. arms, the United States should guarantee that such arms must not be an obstacle in restoring the legitimate rights to the Palestinians and in establishing peace and stability, which is hindered by military operations such as the attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor, the attack on southern Lebanon and the operations in the West Bank, and the failure to acknowledge the rights of the Palestinian people for self-determination.

'ALI ON PEACE PROCESS, ARAB-ISRAELI CONTACT

NC221731 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has affirmed that there will be no overall and just peace in the Middle East without a solution of the Palestinian problem. He added that it is not logical for Egypt to abandon this issue after 25 April or to stop such negotiations after this date.

His excellency, who was replying to a question, said the Egypt is most certainly an Arab country and that Egyptian-Arab solidarity will not be at the expense of Egypt's relations with Israel. He added that the Egyptian-Israeli relations can serve as a model for future Arab-Israeli relations.

CAIRO DAILY VIEWS FUTURE OF ARAB RELATIONS

PM221157 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 18 Feb 82 pp 1, 3

[Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi' Article: "Egypt's Return to the Arabs or the Arabs' Return to Egypt"]

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak's 1-day visit to the Sultanate of Oman aroused many questions and much speculation. The reason for this might be the fact that Sultan Qabus sent his invitation to the president while he was in Washington, which might reflect the keen desire for the invitation and for the visit to take place quickly. The reason could also be the imminent final Israeli withdrawal from the rest of the occupied territories in Sinai and the link between this and the possibility of Egypt's returning to the Arabs or of the Arabs' returning to Egypt. What is more astonishing is that speculation went as far as the supposition that President Mubarak would meet in the Omani capital with some representatives of the Arab countries or that he would leave Muscat to visit some capitals of the Arab Gulf.

The principal fact of this visit is that Egypt and Oman are linked by good and close relations and that the Omani leadership understands the reality of the age and supports the choice of peace. Also Egypt, for its part, spares no effort or action that would strengthen Oman, be it through its resources, experience, or its friends in the advanced states.

In the meantime Omani foreign policy is to a large extent identical to Egyptian policy with regard to a close friendship with the United States and the extreme caution with regard to Soviet penetration, while asserting the principle of total rejection of the policy of polarization in the area with either superpower. In this regard both countries agreed to give military facilities to the United States when the need arises and both refused to give any permanent bases.

As Sultan Qabus said: "We say 'no' to bases but say 'yes' to facilities. Facilities mean improving and expanding our airfields, ports and utilities so as to be able to provide the services required of them. In the end everything will remain on Omani territory and for Oman." Sultan Qabus says: "The reason for this is that we are besieged and threatened from every side. The Soviet Union is in Afghanistan, and South Yemen is a Soviet base in the full sense of the word. Some 20,000 Cubans are in Eghioptia; Somalia is threatened; and Pakistan and Iran are under Soviet threat for various reasons. The pincer movement around us is complete from Angola to Afghanistan."

Therefore, it is not surprising for President Husni Mubarak to visit Oman to talk with Sultan Qabus about what went on during his visit to Europe and the United States and to brief him on the outcome of his talks with President Reagan and with the congressmen and senators and, consequently, convey the views of all these people on supporting the security of Oman and the Gulf countries.

It is natural that the talks should also deal with the Arab situation and the current events in the Arab countries. It is known that Oman has an active role in the Arab Gulf area as it was one of the first Gulf countries to have drawn attention to the question of Gulf security, believing that there is no one country that can individually protect security in that region. Therefore, within this survey of the Arab situation it was inevitable that the question of the future of Arab relations be discussed.

We are among those who always call for the inevitability of Egypt's return to the Arabs. But we also strongly believe that this return should be through increasing the positive policies in which everybody believes while discarding the present negative policies one by one.

This does not mean that there are conditions on such a return, because reuniting the Arab family is bound to take place today, tomorrow or in the near future. The issue is that Egypt has, of its own free will, chosen peace as a principle which it believes is the way to a comprehensive and just solution after its bitter experience in many wars.

Therefore it is a matter of time before the negative policies are pinpointed and eliminated and the positive policies are strengthened and increased. This matter does not depend at all on 26 April, or 26 September or the 26th day of any month. It depends, as we said, on the restoration of the integrity of the Arab ranks and on completing Arab solidarity. But what must be made clear is that the date of 26 April does not mean that Egypt will go back on its choice or its commitment to the choice of peace or continuing its efforts to put the Palestinians on the path of self-determination.

What this date means to us is to concentrate on internal problems. There is the question of Egypt's economic future; there is the question of a people who made sacrifices in wars and who hope for a dignified life; and there is the question of a people who have tried self-reliance, with the help of friends, to give a boost to development.

NPUG LEADER ASSERTS 'NO DIALOGUE HAS BEGUN'

PM221613 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 17 Feb 82 pp 1, 4

[Salih Qallab report on 16 February interview in Beirut with National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party [NPUGP] Assistant Secretary General Rif'at as-Sa'id]

[Text] Dr Rif'at as-Sa'id, assistant secretary general of the Egyptian NPUGP Central Committee, has talked about his party's attitude toward Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's regime. He noted that the regime has not changed its position on Camp David and still maintains close relations with the United States. He emphasized that the party's dialogue with the regime has not started yet. He said he fears that a partial dialogue between Mubarak and the Arabs would divide the front opposed to Camp David.

As-Sa'id was speaking to AS-SAFIR on his arrival from Cairo yesterday for a visit during which he will hold talks with the leaders of the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese National Movement. The visit will last several days.

On the NPUGP policy toward Mubarak, he said: Our party was in the past and still is a party of radical opposition. We were and still are against the Camp David line. This is not only my own personal position. It is the position of our party's Central Committee, which is the highest authority after the Party's General Congress.

He added: We are against alignment with the United States and we call for a policy of nonalignment. We are against the continuation of the state of emergency and against all the emergency laws. We request the abolition of these laws. We are opposed to the regime's economic and social policies because under these policies the poor have gotten poorer and the rich richer.

He wondered: What is new then?

What is new, he said, is that the new leadership has changed its method of work. "The question facing the political opposition in Egypt now is: should we modify our methods?"

Referring to the difference between As-Sadat's line and Mubarak's line, he said: "There is a marginal and insufficient difference in our opinion. Still, it is a change that deserves our interest and consideration. As far as the Camp David agreements are concerned we see that the first difference between the two is that the new president refuses to conclude an agreement on autonomy unacceptable to the Palestinians — something which As-Sadat was willing to do.

"The second difference between them is that now we as the opposition are allowed to voice our opposition to the Camp David line and practices. The statement issued recently by our Central Committee, which was distributed without confiscation, as well as the AL-MUWAJAHAH bulletin which urged a boycott of the Israeli pavilion at the book exhibition, and the statement was issued expressing our objection to the position taken by the Egyptian delegate at the UN General Assembly during the voting on the resolution imposing sanctions against Israel for annexing the Golan Heights are all examples of this."

He added: "This does not mean that the regime has changed its position on the Camp David line. It still insists on following this line and we still oppose it. So, really the new margin is that we can express some of our opposition, but not all of it.

He noted that the regime "still maintains close relations with the United States but it claims that it is for nonalignment, even when it comes to the question of diversifying sources of arms in the West. This is significant in various ways, but we still disagree with the regime's one-sided relations, which are quite detached from the policy of non-alignment."

On the question of democracy in Egypt, he said that "the regime wants a dialogue with the opposition. We have always advocated dialogue. During As-Sadat's era we called for a dialogue provided it is done publicly with the participation of the masses. We now declare that there has been no real dialogue yet. However, the regime has shown some indications which deserve consideration. For example, the party's mouthpiece AL-AHALI will be published in May and it will follow the same line as in the past and defend the causes of the people and the homeland. We nevertheless believe that the minimum desired change, as far as democracy is concerned, is the abolition of the state of emergency and the emergency laws."

Dr Rif'at as-Sa'id said that at the economic level there is a wide gap between the positions of the NPUGP and Mubarak's regime. He added: "We participated in the economic conference and we submitted a document arguing that the economic problem is not just a matter for discussion by experts who would come up with miracle solutions. We maintained that social guidance is the key to a solution."

Referring to the party's position on the question of dialogue between the party and Mubarak's regime and between the regime and the Arabs, he said: "The dialogue should be based on equality and should be made public. The people, who have a real interest in the dialogue, should participate in it. We say that without the publication of the party's newspaper, without the real participation of the media and the masses, we cannot consider the dialogue as having started."

He added: "As for the question of dialogue between the regime and the Arabs, it is a matter of on what basis the dialogue will be conducted. If it is on the basis of defending Arab interests against U.S. imperialism, then we support it. However, we believe that a partial dialogue would divide the front opposed to the Camp David line into pro-American Arabs and anti-American Arabs. What kind of dialogue and with whom? The answer to this question would determine our position."

Answering a question as to whether the party is now opposed to the policies of Mubarak's regime, not the regime itself, compared with its opposition to As-Sadat's regime and policies, he said: "We are opposed to the main policies of the regime. The regime itself still considers our party to be the main opposition party."

Referring to the Arab book exhibition in Egypt and Israel's participation in it, he said: "Our party has paid the price twice. As-Sadat had ordered the arrest of many of us, but after 6 October the new regime arrested many of our party members and leaders. Sixty members of our Central Committee -- that is, one-third of the committee's members -- are still in jail. The point is that when the regime increased Israel's participation in the exhibition we intensified our opposition to such participation. We were not content with just issuing a statement urging authors and intellectuals to condemn the Zionist views and the Zionist presence in Egypt and maintaining that silence about cultural normalization is tantamount to a capitulation to the Zionist enemy and helps the enemy consolidate its position in Egypt. We also organized an exhibition of Palestinian books at our party's headquarters, and we hoisted the Palestinian flag there. We also organized a festival of poetry and song in support of the Palestinian revolution."

On the question of normalization [of Egyptian-Israeli relations], he said: "Our position on the question of normalization is quite clear. We are against normalization and we resist it in theory and practice. Our party has strongly condemned the normalization agreements concluded under Mubarak's reign. It is no secret that we expressed our views on this matter to President Mubarak during our two meetings with him."

Asked if Arab reactionaries might benefit from the openness to Mubarak demonstrated by the NPUGP and other Egyptian opposition factions, he said: "As I have already indicated, the dialogue should be public and should be based on equality. I emphasize again that the dialogue with the regime has not started yet. If the president of the republic wishes to hold meetings with the leaders of the opposition parties, we believe that this is a positive sign because it gives the opposition a chance to express its views to the decision-making officials."

He added: "It is really not a question of whether or not we change our principles. I maintain that we have said what needed saying, and we have stuck to our principles. To the claim that such meetings could open the way for dialogue with others, we say that our dialogue has begun and ended, and we stand against the Camp David line."

On Mubarak's motives for such dialogue and meetings, he said: "The new president wants to modify the method of work. The lesson of the past was severe."

He added: "Since the party was founded 3,000 of its members have been imprisoned, 80 percent of them for opposing the Camp David agreements. We do not change our principles like we change our clothes. We are not that type, but we communicate with the regime while still opposing its policies."

Asked if President Mubarak has entrusted to NPUGP leader Khalid Muhyi ad-Din the task of starting a dialogue with certain Arab circles, he said: "President Mubarak has entrusted no task to us. We are not qualified to play such a role because we still disagree with many of Mubarak's policies, especially those related to Camp David."

He added: "As a party expressing the Egyptian Arab people's aspirations, we believe in relations with the Arab peoples and their revolutionary forces."

MUBARAK ORDERS RELEASE OF 163 DETAINEES

NC231956 Cairo MENA in English 1948 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak today ordered the release of 163 persons who had been taken into custody in September last year in connection with the sectarian sedition.

The announcement on the release said it had been ascertained that the persons in question did not constitute security risks.

MUBARAK TO MEET LEGISLATORS, PARTY, PRESS

NC230847 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0634 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) -- AL-AHRAM today says that President Husni Mubarak will hold a meeting on 6 March with the People's Assembly, the Consultative Council's parliamentary body and the secretaries of the National Democratic Party in the provinces to present several topics for discussion with the party's parliamentary body, especially the topic of internal action and Egypt's foreign policy.

The paper adds: Foremost among the topics to be presented by President Mubarak will be what is being written by Egyptians in the Arab press and the damage these writings cause to Egypt and its officials. The fact that no Arab writer in any Arab paper writes anything against his own country or what is taking place in it, even when living outside his country, will be raised as a point of contrast.

The paper adds: The discussion of this subject is not, of course, to jeopardize the freedom of the press or impose restrictions on it. Rather, it is a plea to Egyptian writers to refrain from hurting the homeland and to write with objectivity on what concerns the majority of the people. Egypt is not now interested in settling accounts, unearthing the past, or hurting honest men, but it strongly seeks to achieve a better standard to fulfill the hope of the youth and the people in general who wish to attain for every citizen a proper home far away from a life of suffering. It is expected that newspaper chairmen and chief editors will be invited to attend this meeting.

BRIEFS

GHALI RECEIVES AMBASSADORS -- Cairo, 7 Feb (MENA) -- State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met today with Ambassador-Designate of Burma here Uta Jun, who submitted a copy of his credentials to Ghali. They discussed Egyptian-Burman relations and developments of the Non-Alignment Movement. Dr Ghali also met with West German Ambassador-Designate here Kurt Mueller, who also submitted a copy of his credentials to Ghali. Dr Ghali reviewed with Mueller the Middle East situation and Egypt's stance and adherence to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the area. Mueller attached great interest to President Mubarak's tour of the United States and a number of European countries, including West Germany. He also hailed the results to be achieved by the tour. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1300 GMT 7 Feb 82 NC]

ROMANIAN MUSLIM DELEGATION -- His Eminence Dr ('Abd ar-Rahman Baysar), the shaykh of Al-Azhar today received in his office a delegation of Romanian Muslims headed by the Muslim mufti of Romania, (Muhammad Ya'qub), who is currently visiting Egypt. The meeting discussed the condition of the Muslims in Romania and the means to bolster relations and cooperation in various religious matters with Al-Azhar, particularly the possibility of sending a number of Al-Azhar teachers to teach Arabic and religious affairs to Romanian Muslims. Dr (Baysar) has agreed to allot several study scholarships to Romanian Muslims so that they can study at Al-Azhar University. Earlier, the delegation of the Romanian Muslims met with the minister of state for religious trusts, Shaykh 'Ali Jad al-Haq and People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi abu-Talib. [Text] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Feb 82 NC]

PREMIER MEETS ROMANIAN DELEGATION -- This evening, Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din received the mufti of the Romanian Muslims, Haj (Muhammad Ya'qub) and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting took place in the prime minister's office. During the meeting, which was also attended by the Minister for Religious Trusts Shaykh 'Ali Jad al-Haq, the Romanian guest conveyed to Dr Muhyi ad-Din the regards and appreciation of the Romanian Muslims and the Romanian people to the Egyptian people and their appreciation of Egypt's role in achieving progress and for working to achieve an overall and just peace in the Middle East. The message also expressed their satisfaction with the progress of the Egyptian-Romanian relations in various fields. [Text] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Feb 82 NC]

ISRAELI TOURISM DELEGATION -- Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) -- An Israeli delegation of managers of tourist agencies conferred with Egyptian Government officials and managers of Egyptian tourist agencies on ways to stimulate tourism between Egypt and Israel. The two sides discussed facilities for tourist travel and arrangements for group tourism. The Israeli delegation had arrived in Cairo yesterday for a five-day visit. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1740 GMT 22 Feb 82 NC]

YUGOSLAV INDUSTRIAL PARTICIPATION -- Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA) -- A joint steel valves plant is to emerge in Cairo under a contract co-signed here today by the Delta Steel Company, the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation (EGPC) and the Afro-Arab bank. A Yugoslav company which is to take part in building the plant also signed. The 6.3 million dollars plant will be sited in "Ramadan 10", a newly built residential area. It will start production in two years' time, thus providing the steel valves required for various oil, chemical and engineering establishments. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1615 GMT 4 Feb 82 NC]

JORDAN DENIES EXPLUSION OF SYRIAN DIPLOMATS

JN240704 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 24 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] Amman -- AD-DUSTUR has learned that the Jordanian Government a few days ago asked the Syrian Government to recall the military attache in the Syrian Embassy in Amman. The assistant Jordanian military attache in Damascus returned to Amman a few days ago.

Knowledgeable sources have denied reports broadcast over the enemy radio that all the Syrian Embassy staff in Amman have been asked to leave Jordan. The sources said that the way the report was broadcast over the enemy radio was meant to incite confusion.

AD-DUSTUR ON EUROPEAN MEETING IN JERUSALEM

JN231022 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 23 Feb 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Language That Europe Understands," AD-DUSTUR says: What is astonishing is that there is no excuse of reason for the Political Committee of the Council of Europe to adopt this step, since it realizes that the situation in the city of Jerusalem constitutes a difficult problem, especially after Israel annexed it and challenged the Security Council's resolutions and those of the United Nations which are the same resolutions the same European countries agreed upon and adhered to -- not to recognize the annexation of the holy city and all the Israeli measures because they are false and illegal. Therefore, the European Council's Political Committee meeting in occupied Jerusalem under the canopy of the Israeli measures which the United Nations, including the European countries have rejected indicates complete partiality with Israeli aggression. Support for the Israeli viewpoint which considers united Jerusalem as Israel's capital constitutes blatant defiance on the part of the committee to international resolutions and a collusion to destroy peace opportunities in the region.

Any self-respecting parliament eager to achieve justice and to support right cannot adopt any step which might encourage and entrench aggression. Therefore, it behooves the European parliament to devote its efforts to establishing peace by standing firmly and courageously in the face of Israel's aggressive expansionist policy and to play its role in pressuring the European countries to adopt an even-handed policy and a clear-cut stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict. But, by ignoring its task as a parliamentary institution and allowing the Political Committee to meet in occupied Jerusalem, the European Council would thus be joining Israel by supporting its aggression and encouraging it to continue destroying peace opportunities.

The paper explains that the European retreat, which began by disavowing the Venice declaration by way of European laxity and duplicity of stands on Israel's aggressive practices, is entrenched by the decision of the European Council's Political Committee to meet in occupied Jerusalem. This constituted a violation of the UN resolutions and even of the stands previously adopted by the European countries and which were later relinquished due to Israeli pressures at the expense of European dignity and interests and international peace and security.

The paper concludes: As we have repeatedly said the condemnation and denunciation will not change the painful reality the Arab nation is facing and will not convince the European countries and others of our just cause and the danger of Israeli aggression. These countries only understand the language of interests. If we really want them to understand our language then we should speak the language these countries understand and force them to feel that their vital interests are in danger as partiality with Israel and submission to Zionist pressures is the danger which threatens their security and their economic and political interests.

TWO BOMBS KILL FOUR, RAISE TENSIONS IN BEIRUT

NC231300 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] At 1310 today, two carbombs exploded in the Carlton area in Ar-Rawshah in western Beirut. A short time separated the two explosions. It appears that grave damage was caused and there is an undetermined number of casualties as those wounded were rushed to hospitals. Bursts of indiscriminate and sporadic shooting occurred after the two explosions.

A preliminary report says that those removed to the American University Hospital include 4 killed and 30 wounded while others were being removed to other hospitals. The bomb in Ar-Rawshah, near the Maryland Restaurant in the Carlton hotel area, was estimated to weigh 70 kg and caused a fire in some buildings, increasing the number of casualties.

The other explosion was in Australia street near a Syrian Intelligence office near the Saqiyat al-Janzir area.

The appropriate authorities rushed to investigate and estimate the force of the two bombs, which was overestimated in the preliminary investigation due to the many casualties.

Armed groups were observed covering Al-Mazra'ah Corniche up to the sports city and Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda'.

VOP: 'ZIONIST AGENTS' BEHIND BEIRUT EXPLOSIONS

NC231323 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1245 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Criminal hands committed today a new crime against innocent citizens. Agents of the Zionist enemy and hostile organs blew up two cars at noon today opposite the Maryland Restaurant and opposite the Yildizlar Restaurant in the main popular market in Beirut city. The two explosions went off within a short time of each other, in places that are most crowded with pedestrians and cars, indicating that it was the intention of the agents, who are behind this ugly crime, to cause as many casualties as possible in the ranks of the citizens.

Ambulances and civil defense cars are moving the wounded from the place of the incident. Firemen are extinguishing the fires which broke out as a result of the two explosions.

'HOLY STRUGGLE' CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOMBS

NC231304 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] In a communication with the Voice of Lebanon, a spokesman for an organization calling itself "the Holy Struggle" organization claimed the organization's responsibility for the two explosions which took place in western Beirut this afternoon. Here is a recording of this contact:

[Begin recording] The organization claims responsibility for the two explosions which took place in the Ar-Rawshah area. The target of the explosions was the intelligence centers of the Syrian Army of occupation. The explosions were in retaliation of the operation of extermination to which many families in dear Tripoli were subjected.

[Question] [indistinct]

[Answer] Yes, the Jerusalem group [majmu'at al-Qudus] has carried out its first operation against the cells of the Syrian occupation. It will launch a fierce war...

[The announcer interrupts to ask] Why is your voice distant? Raise your voice a little.

[Answer] Because there is a little [word indistinct] here. It will launch a fierce war against their cells and leaders. We shall reach all their leaders who participated in the killing of our kinsmen in Tripoli and Ash-Shiyah, whom we will never forget. We warn the National Movement that we will reach its leaders if it remains idle and that our answer will be very harsh. [end recording]

THIRD BOMB, SHOOTING INCIDENTS IN BEIRUT

NC241313 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Tension prevailed in the western area of Beirut this morning following an explosion which took place at an armed center belonging to the Ahmad al-Khatib group in Tallat al-Khayyat. The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the incident occurred in the second floor of the center as some persons were preparing a bomb. The bomb detonated, killing one persons and wounding five others.

Because of the phenomenon of the spread of boobytrapped cars and acting on information, [security forces] searched seven cars which were parked in the American University and Hubaysh localities.

According to other information, the areas of Ar-Rawshah and Al-Hamra [in western Beirut] have been completely sealed off. The sound of rifle shots is being heard amidst the increasing demand for the presence of the Lebanese authority in these areas.

'ARAFAT, NATIONALISTS DISCUSS TRIPOLI SECURITY

NC230750 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] At 2100 yesterday, a second meeting was held at the 24 October Movement headquarters under the chairmanship of Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and attended by Comrade Muhsin Ibrahim, Col Muhammad Ghanim, Brig Gen Abu al-Walid [Sa'd Sayil], the higher coordination committee, all nationalist leaderships and officials in Tripoli and representatives of the Islamic bodies and the Arab Democratic Party.

After the meeting that lasted until the early hours this morning, Comrade Muhsin Ibrahim told newsmen: I can say with all confidence that the atmosphere during this and the earlier meeting was frank and very positive. It was a frankness of comrades in the same trench and allies in the joint pan-Arab destiny. He added: We are proceeding toward an integrated political, social and security plan through which the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, the popular forces, the Islamic bodies and all leaders and political officials of Tripoli can play their role in close cooperation with the Arab Deterrent Force [ADF]. He said: To us, the ADF has been, and will continue to be, the required legitimate force, acceptable to the nationalist forces.

Muhsin Ibrahim said: We will continue our meetings on Tuesday to chart the integrated plan that will ensure that problems will not recur. He said that practical and serious measures may appear in the next few hours, and that the atmosphere is positive.

NORWEGIAN COMMANDER MEETS DEFENSE MINISTER

NC221906 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Norwegian Army Commander General (Hamer) today visited Defense Minister Joseph Skaf and Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri in Al-Yarzah. After his meeting with Minister Skaf, General (Hamer) spoke about the cooperation he felt when he inspected the Norwegian contingent and commended the cooperation between this contingent and the Lebanese Army personnel deployed in the UNIFIL area of operations. He praised this cooperation, the discipline of the Lebanese Army personnel, the bustling life he saw in the south despite the situation there and the absence of exodus on the part of the inhabitants. He said that the Norwegian defense minister will visit Lebanon in the second half of April to inspect the Norwegian contingent in the south.

CHAMBER SPEAKER REVIEWS RESULTS OF SYRIAN VISIT

NC192024 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Feb 82

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil Al-As'ad held a press conference at the Foreign Ministry today on the results of his visit to Syria and the talks he held with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Al-As'ad disclosed some of the results of his meeting with President al-Asad, stressing that the views discussed were in agreement, particularly regarding the inability to confront the conspiratorial challenge if the Arab ranks are not united.

President al-Asad expressed Syria's readiness to take the initiative to achieve the desired results. Kamil al-As'ad said that Syria has no reservations about the Lebanese proposal to implement the Security Council resolution. He stressed that Syria is looking forward to the time when the pages, which may not all be white in relations with Lebanon, will be turned to a new page of complete confidence and frankness. He said that Syria's strength is a support for Lebanon's stability, which, in turn, will be in the interest of Syria. At his press conference, Al-As'ad said:

[begin recording] Bilateral Syrian-Lebanese relations [passage indistinct]. I have said, and will continue to say, that Syrian-Lebanese relations must be based on the same fateful fact between both peoples and countries apart from the pan-Arab bonds which, as we know, are that the Syrian-Lebanese destiny is one.

Syria and we are looking forward to the time when we must turn over pages that may not all be white [words indistinct] (?remove) once and for all what mars relations so that there would be no loopholes or ambiguities. We are looking forward to opening a new page based on confidence and frankness which will lead to sound and fruitful cooperation and unify the stands on the pan-Arab and Syrian-Lebanese responsibilities. [words indistinct] when we reach this stage [words indistinct] the Lebanese reality and interest as much as it is a Syrian interest.

Within this context, we must say that Syria's strength is a support for Lebanon's stability and that Lebanon's stability will be in the interest of Syria [words indistinct] in the interest of Lebanon's stability and strength. [end recording]

MAJOR HADDAD COMMENTS ON ECONOMIC, ARMY ISSUES

NC220853 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Free Lebanon leader Maj Sa'd Haddad has made the following comments on some questions of the hour:

1. We ask Mr Shafiq al-Wazzan not to philosophize so much on the reasons for his Gulf tour but to tell the Lebanese people frankly that he is going there to beg for money. The cause is that the Lebanese treasury has gone bankrupt. He should also tell the people that, should he fail to obtain money, the occupying state will be compelled to cease paying the salaries of all the employees, including the president of the republic, the ministers and the deputies, or, the state will be impelled to issue new unbacked banknotes, which will definitely devalue the Lebanese lira. This matter threatens to become a major economic catastrophe. Therefore, we advise our compatriots and sons in free Lebanon not to deposit savings in Lebanese liras, but to substitute any foreign currency for Lebanese liras.

2. We view the fighting raging in Tripoli -- although connected to some extent to the events in Syria -- to be healthy. In essence, this fighting does not differ from the recent fighting in the south between the Lebanese Amal movement and the alien swindlers. This healthy fighting epitomizes the uprising staged by the Lebanese against the alien occupiers, be they Syrians or swindlers. This uprising affirms that no matter how grave this occupation of Lebanon is and regardless of how long it will last, it is unavoidable that the Lebanese people must rise against the occupiers and expel them from the country of the Lebanese -- Lebanon.

3. The swindlers have discovered that they haven't yet sufficiently humiliated the Lebanese people. Therefore, they entrusted girl swindlers with the tasks of manning barricades on the Lebanese roads and searching and apprehending Lebanese citizens when needed. All these actions hearten the guardians of legitimacy in Lebanon, who view them as soothing and peaceful. The reason is that the guardians of legitimacy regard their legitimacy as having spread and prospered throughout Lebanese territory, with the exception of the free Lebanon area. Therefore, we see them intensifying their efforts in the Arab and international arenas to return free Lebanon to the sanctuary of their authority, which is subject to the sphinx who reigns happily over western Beirut, and to Colonel Ghanim, who is in the Shtawrah resort.

4. We ask all ranks of Lebanese soldiers if they are satisfied with their pathetic status after having been barred from any role in Lebanon. Should any soldier suggest deploying the army in the so-called nationalist areas, an endless din is raised on the grounds that the army is sectarian, factional, unbalanced and so on. However, when this army was requested by the liberated areas as a means of imposing legitimate authority on these areas, the prime minister approved. However, he refrains from translating his consent to the request into action for reasons he cannot divulge. However, and in fact, the reasons are that his Syrian and swindler masters object to -- and prevent him from -- giving the army any role in either the eastern or the western area. This is because the prime minister's masters want the country to continue to fumble in a state of disarray and uncertainty, which enables the occupiers to fulfill their aspirations. At this point Major Haddad wonders: If this is the condition of the Lebanese Army, then we are surprised and astonished that the soldiers accept this public, humiliating disgrace. We also wonder why these men do not avenge their dignity and join the free Lebanon army, which has dedicated itself to serving Lebanon and liberating it from its swindler and Syrian usurpers, and to reinstating unity, sovereignty and independence in all Lebanon.

KHADDAM BRIEFS PARTY OFFICIALS ON SITUATION

JN232026 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The comrade secretaries of the Ba'th Party branches, governors and heads of popular organizations held a regular meeting at the Ba'th Party Regional Command building this morning. Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Ba'th Party assistant regional secretary presided over the meeting. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Ba'th Party Regional Command members and ministers.

At the beginning of the meeting, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam submitted a political report on the current Arab and international situation stressing the importance of the political triumph Syria achieved in the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly and the importance of exploiting this to further isolate the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism.

Khaddam explained the importance of the practical steps Syria has taken to consolidate its steadfastness and achieve the required strategic balance for confronting the Zionist enemy on all levels and the importance of consolidating and developing Arab solidarity with Syria given that Syria is a front for pan-Arab confrontation and the country most capable of protecting our Arab nation's central cause. He also stressed the importance of strengthening relations of strategic friendship with the socialist countries, foremost of which is the Soviet Union.

The secretaries of the Ba'th Party branches, governors and heads of popular organizations will resume meeting this evening to complete discussing agenda items.

TISHRIN EDITORIAL ON HABIB'S MIDEAST MISSION

JN240858 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Damascus, 24 Feb (SANA) -- In today's editorial entitled "The Black Hatred Will Not Succeed in Obstructing Syria's March," TISHRIN says: It has been announced in Washington that Philip Habib held two meetings with Reagan and Haig within the context of preparations for a forthcoming tour of the Middle East. This indicates that some kind of view has ripened in the mind of the U.S. administration concerning the area, specifically in Syria, Lebanon and the Zionist entity.

TISHRIN points out that Habib's regional tours were accompanied by a series of U.S.-Israeli threats and Israeli attacks on the area. The paper wonders if the Hamah incidents and the flagrant U.S. campaign on Syria fall within the context of preparations for Habib's visit.

Alluding to Western press reports of a scenario of a Zionist aggression whose outlines were charted in the Pentagon, to the premeditated eruptions in Lebanon and to the crimes committed by the agent Muslim Brotherhood gang in Hamah, TISHRIN says: If we place all this in true perspective, we realize that imperialism and Zionism want to move from preparing for aggression against Syria -- because Syria is the stumbling block vis-a-vis their plans, designs and plots -- to a stage of implementing aggression, particularly owing to the failure of all their plans to exhaust and weaken Syria via internal and external pressures.

In conclusion, TISHRIN says the Syrian masses have unwaveringly reaffirmed support for and rallied remarkably around struggler President Hafiz al-Asad to continue the march of struggle to destroy the enemies' schemes. The masses are alert to all plots and will crush all plotters so that the banners of progress and socialism can fly high and the march to liberate the land and restore rights will continue.

AL-ASAD VIEW OF HABIB MISSION CITED BY KUNA

LD232040 Kuwait KUNA in English 1558 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Washington, 23 Feb (KUNA) -- The U.S. special envoy to the Middle East Philip Habib leaves later this week for the region amid fears that he will be unable to accomplish any tangible success to prevent an outbreak of hostilities in south Lebanon.

The decision to send Habib on a shuttle diplomatic mission to Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, and perhaps Saudi Arabia was taken at a closed meeting held last night at the White House between President Reagan, Secretary of State Alexander Haig, and Habib.

But it is unclear in Washington as to whether he will be able to pacify the parties directly concerned -- Israelis and Palestinians -- without direct contact with the PLO.

Habib has reportedly no specific plan to offer and his mission is expected to be further complicated by the strained relations between Washington and Damascus over the Golan Heights annexation issue.

The State Department is expected to announce within the coming two days Habib's itinerary and the specific date of his departure.

Informed sources said Habib will have a better chance of assessing the mood in the region after getting a first-hand report from another special envoy in the Middle East, Richard Fairbanks, who flew back to Washington Tuesday.

Although Fairbanks was sent to Israel and Egypt to help break the deadlock in the West Bank autonomy talks, he would have had a chance to evaluate the Israeli mood and intentions regarding the south Lebanon crisis.

Reports from Damascus have indicated over the last few days that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will not be ready to meet with Habib if he intends to visit Damascus. But intense diplomatic contacts are still underway between Damascus and Washington on this issue.

AL-BA'TH ON MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD, EXTERNAL PLOTS

JN241137 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Damascus, 24 Feb (SANA) -- AL-BA'TH today asserts that our pan-Arab front has, through the cohesion of the masses with their Ba'th Party and under the leadership of Hafiz al-Asad, proved effective in confronting the imperialist-Zionist challenges and their agent tools -- the criminal and murderous gang. Our front has also proved its effectiveness through heroic confrontation of all the imperialist-Zionist plots and intrigues and has asserted by practice and action that its unity is powerful enough not to be harmed by the evil force's plots.

AL-BA'TH adds: The unity of our people's popular, professional, student and farmer bodies, organizations and trade unions in one cohesive front to bolster Syria's steadfastness in confronting challenges and dangers [words indistinct] represents a popular referendum in which our masses have undertaken to pursue a course of struggle and to foil the plot as well as to crush the plotters and traitors -- the enemies of the nation and the people.

The paper says: Our domestic front was always strong and solid as demonstrated during the October liberation war. Our front is still the same, particularly its remarkable stand in crushing the criminal gang -- the Muslim Brotherhood.

The paper adds: Syria's pan-Arab and national stands and its struggle confronting plots against the Arab homeland are the cause motivating the conspiratorial forces to intensify pressure on Syria to the extent of blatant interference in Syria's internal affairs. This is manifest currently by the West's and U.S. interference and the campaigns of contentions and lies led by the West against Syria.

AL-BA'TH asserts that strong revolutionary Syria supported by its people's unity and its force's cohesion with its party and leader will always remain victorious and the strongest.

TALAS ATTENDS USSR EMBASSY RECEPTION 23 FEB

JN232143 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The USSR Embassy in Damascus this evening held a reception on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy.

The reception was attended by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi; Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and armed forces and defense minister; Comrade Dr Rif'at al-Asad, Ba'th Party Regional Command member; Progressive National Front Command members; ministers; ranking army and armed forces officers; Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the Palestine National Council; PLO Executive Committee members; the PLA commander; ranking officials from the Palestinian resistance factions; heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions accredited in Damascus; military attaches and other guests.

MONTE CARLO: DAMASCUS ACCUSES DEFECTORS TO IRAQ

JN240536 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] For the first time since the eruption of the bloody events in Hamah, the Syrian press has accused the Syrian Ba'thists who defected to Iraq of collaborating with the Muslim Brotherhood. TISHRIN praised the 23 February 1966 movement which dismissed the rightist line in the party and accused its leaders of supplying the Muslim Brotherhood with arms to wreck Syria's power.

In another development, Damascus radio admitted for the first time that the armed forces are participating in operations in Hamah. Previously, the official mass media had only said that party militia and internal security forces were participating in the combing and search operations in Hamah.

DIPLOMATIC SOURCES ON SYRIAN ADVISERS IN IRAN

JN230815 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 23 Feb 82 p 26

[Text] Beirut -- Diplomatic sources here have disclosed that the Syrian ambassador in Tehran has confirmed at a meeting with Arab ambassadors in Tehran his previous statement to the effect that his government had dispatched a number of military advisers to Iran. The advisers, according to the ambassador, are actually training Iranians on certain types of weapons.

The Arab ambassadors linked the Syrian ambassador's statement to reports that had come to light of several Syrian military personnel being killed in recent battles between Iraq and Iran and their corpses being transported to Damascus and secretly handed over to their families.

SHAMIR INTERVIEWED ON UPCOMING TALKS IN EGYPT

TA221839 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Report by Shim'on Ayalon at Ben-Gurion Airport prior to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's departure for Cairo -- recorded]

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will be in Egypt until 25 February. On the agenda there, meetings with the Egyptian foreign minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali and President Husni Mubarak. The topics for discussion: the Sinai withdrawal, the autonomy talks and the continuing normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel. Before boarding the El Al plane, Mr Shamir spoke to newsmen:

[Unidentified Correspondent] Mr Shamir, there have been reports here that you are going in order to make sure that President Mubarak will be visiting Israel. Is there concern here that he might not come at all, for fear of upsetting the Arab world?

[Shamir] I will discuss many questions and many issues and, among them, also the coming visit which will be very important for us of President Mubarak.

[Question] Do you expect him to come?

[Shamir] Of course.

[Question] And visit Jerusalem?

[Shamir] Of course.

[Question] Are you optimistic, Mr Shamir, that peace is real and will continue?

[Shamir] I am always optimistic and I am sure that the peace between us and Egypt is in the interests, in the best interests of the Egyptian people as it is in our interests.

[Ayalon] Sir, how do you interpret the reports that have been coming out of Egypt specifically by your counterpart in Egypt, about the move of that country to move back into the Arab fold? Does this worry you at all, give you any cause for concern?

[Shamir] It's not the first time we heard about this, all this statements and we know that there is a trend in Egypt to resume the relations between Egypt and the Arab world and we were told by President Mubarak that this will not come at the expense of the peaceful relations between Egypt and Israel. I will try to discuss and understand better all these issues, how it will work.

Further Comments

TA221732 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1710 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Report on the "Evening Newsreel"]

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is due to depart shortly for Cairo, where he will hold political talks with the Egyptian minister of foreign affairs, prime minister and president. Our correspondent, Tzahi Noga, is at Ben-Gurion Airport:

[Noga -- live] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, accompanied by his wife and aides, is now making his way to the plane that will take him to Cairo within 90 minutes. Prior to boarding the plane, Minister Shamir told us:

[Begin Shamir recording] I am going to Egypt at the invitation of Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs Kamal Hasan 'Ali to discuss a number of important issues affecting Egyptian-Israeli relations. We will discuss issues concerning the evacuation of the Sinai and the autonomy negotiations. We will try and reach various agreements on the problems of the normalization and we will discuss the complex of relations between Israel and Egypt, before and after the evacuation of the Sinai. [end recording]

[Noga -- live] Tomorrow, Shamir will confer with the Egyptian minister of foreign affairs. Later, an official banquet will take place. On Wednesday, the two men will tour ancient sites in Luxor; on Thursday he will confer with President Husni Mubarak and in the evening Shamir will return to Israel.

EGYPT'S 'ALI: JORDAN TO JOIN PEACE PROCESS NEXT

TA231445 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 23 Feb 82 pp 1, 6

[Report on interview of Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by Smadar Peri in Cairo on 22 February]

[Excerpts] The interview with 'Ali was conducted only a few hours before Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir was scheduled to arrive in Cairo. To a question of whether Egypt would submit new ideas to Shamir to settle the differences of opinion on the autonomy issues, 'Ali replied: "We have no new ideas, but I will speak at length with the Israeli foreign minister about the autonomy problem. I do not share the view that an agreement should be reached by the date of the completion of the Sinai withdrawal. We are not restricted by time. It would be better for us to reach a solution that will satisfy the partners."

Question: In Israel, there has been anger at your repeated attempts to get out of setting a date for President Mubarak's visit. You also took care to explain in advance that it would be a low profile visit -- not what we had hoped.

'Ali: President Mubarak's March visit to Israel will be similar to his recent visit to European capitals -- only 24 hours in each country. The president must cut his stay short because of internal problems in Egypt. He cannot be absent for a longer time. I do not understand the question, how can a profile be lowered? Everyone knows that a visit to Israel by the president of Egypt will be made under the eyes of television cameras from all over the world. I will agree on the date of the visit tomorrow or the day after in my talks with Minister Shamir.

Question: To date no cooperation has been marked between Egyptian academics and their Israeli counterparts.

'Ali: This is our internal problem. The universities are currently a sensitive problem in Egypt. At this stage we prefer not to invite an Israeli professor to lecture in a university and thus expose him to the possibility of being attacked by fanatic students.

Question: There is a fear in Israel that, with Egypt's turning toward a renewal of relations with Arab countries, the normalization with Israel will suffer.

'Ali: I want to emphasize that the link between Egypt and the Arab countries will not be at the expense of relations with Israel. Even in my speech to the parliament this morning I stressed this important issue. This is a position of principle from which there is no retreat.

Question: I understand that you have begun to work for a renewal of relations with Arab countries. Which Arab country will be the first, in your assessment, to join the peace process?

'Ali: Jordan. I have very good signs of this, but, at this stage, I cannot go into details. You will see that I am right.

Question: Will you agree to implement autonomy in Gaza first, as a model?

'Ali: In principle, the answer is yes. For the sake of order, however, we should first also reach a framework agreement about the West Bank.

Question: What problems will you discuss with Foreign Minister Shamir in the field of normalization?

'Ali: There are no problems. There are details on which we need to reach agreement and there are differences of opinion on such issues as the price of oil and commercial agreements, but all of these are not, in my view, problems, but topics for negotiations.

Question: And what about the field of culture?

'Ali: I am preparing a surprise for your foreign minister: Egypt has approved the proposal by Professor Shim'on Shamir to establish a research center in Cairo. Thus professors from Israel will be able to come to Egypt to do research work, to conduct seminars, with full cooperation by us. Israel will from now on run an academic center inside Cairo.

SHAMIR, EGYPT'S 'ALI REACH AGREEMENT ON TRADE

TA231331 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers have conferred for 4 hours in Cairo. After the meeting, they said they had discussed the autonomy negotiations and strengthening relations between the two countries.

Our correspondent in Cairo, Shim'on Schiffer, reports that agreements were reached on various topics related to trade between the two countries -- namely, on banking arrangements, on tolls to be paid by trucks, and on the ways Israeli companies will advertise their products in the Egyptian media. They also discussed the establishment of the Israeli academic center in Cairo. The working teams will conclude the agreements in the afternoon.

The Egyptian minister of foreign affairs said the date for President Mubarak's visit to Israel would be discussed on Thursday in the meeting between Minister Shamir and the Egyptian president.

Further Details of Talks

TA231827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has suggested to his Egyptian counterpart that the issues on which there is no agreed solution in the autonomy talks be delayed to a later date and, conversely, that the talks focus on those issues likely to be solved rapidly. Shamir also proposed reaching an agreement on principles regarding the administrative council. Israeli sources denied reports issued on behalf of Egyptian officials that Minister 'Ali had rejected the proposal to publish a document of principles prior to the final withdrawal from the Sinai.

In his meeting with Shamir, 'Ali said that Egypt had not set the precondition that the Palestinians should agree to the autonomy agreement before the two countries had signed it. Shamir reiterated Israel's position that Jordan is the Palestinian state and that the Camp David accords had not been designed to establish another such state. The joint military committee is also continuing its deliberations in Cairo. Our correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, reports that the problem of the demarcation of the border in Elat will be submitted to Defense Minister Sharon and the Egyptian minister of foreign affairs for their decision. If the two men fail to reach an agreement, the issue would be determined by the Israeli prime minister and the Egyptian president.

SHAMIR: EGYPT TO MARK 26 APRIL WITH RESTRAINT

TA240700 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that his interlocutors in Egypt have promised him that after the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai a new period between the two countries will open, a period better than any to date. Our correspondent in Cairo, Shim'on Schiffer, spoke with the foreign minister.

[Begin recording] [Schiffer] I would like to return home with the feeling that in the near future it will be possible to feel at peace with Egypt; that it will be stable and permanent. This is what Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said at the peak of the deliberations with his counterpart, Kamal Hasan 'Ali. And indeed 2 months before the completion of the Sinai withdrawal, Israel is trying to determine arrangements that will not permit any damage to an agreement only signed between the two countries 3 years ago. All of this is against the background of the statements heard here about Egypt's return to the Arab fold. Will this be at the expense of relations with Israel? Will businesses surrender to the Arab boycott? The agreements to be signed before 26 April will guarantee, perhaps, that this will not happen. Minister Shamir is following every Egyptian statement and examining every attitude by members of the administration toward future relations.

[Shamir] I would like to go home with a clear announcement about the continuation of the autonomy negotiations, with the negotiations being conducted without disturbances, without breaks, continuously. I would like to conclude several important things on the matter of normalization so as to give a new, additional impetus to all those issues upon which there is agreement in principle, but whose implementation is being held up.

[Schiffer] Israel has appealed to Egypt with a request that 26 April, the date of the completion of the Sinai withdrawal, should not become a day of mass rejoicing by the Egyptians. The foreign minister confirmed that Israel has indeed been promised that Egypt will mark the day with restraint and this will take the form of an appearance by President Mubarak before the Egyptian People's Assembly, not mass popular celebrations. An idea, however, has been raised in Cairo of turning 26 April into a day of peace, an event to be marked by both countries and perhaps even with a meeting between the prime minister and the president of Egypt. As for Husni Mubarak's upcoming visit to Israel, it is now being said that he will stay in Israel on 16 and 17 March. A confirmation of this, however, will only be given tomorrow morning, when the foreign minister is to meet with the Egyptian president. Shim'on Schiffer, Cairo. [end recording]

SHARON DENIES CABINET DECIDED TO ATTACK LEBANON

TA231953 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon today categorically denied reports that the Cabinet had made a decision to attack Lebanon. The minister appeared before the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee. An argument erupted in the committee between MK Shim'on Peres and the defense minister, with Peres asking Sharon why he blamed the opposition for the leaks. Sharon replied: I do not blame the opposition, but the people who leak.

Officials Deny TIME Report

TA230955 Jerusalem POST in English 23 Feb 82 p 1

[Report by Hirsch Goodman]

[Text] Senior defence officials last night dismissed as "preposterous" a report in TIME magazine this week of a plan by Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon to attack the PLO in Lebanon.

The plan held that after the terrorists had been forced to flee to Jordan, Israel would help the PLO get rid of King Husayn, and establish a Palestinian state there. The officials hastened to add that the report was in line with the "repeated inaccuracies" printed in the magazine these past few weeks, specifically regarding Israel's intentions in Lebanon.

There are elements of the TIME report, however, which are consistent with rumors circulating in Jerusalem that Sharon has been pushing for a "final battle" against the terrorists in Lebanon, and that he has been opposed on this by Premier Menahem Begin and other Cabinet members. The magazine accurately quoted Sharon, who has stated on more than one occasion that the only real solution to the Palestinian problem is to turn the Hashemite kingdom into a Palestinian state under the PLO, and certainly not that Israel would facilitate this transition.

Defence sources last night pointed to the illogical nature of the plan TIME attributed to Sharon. Assuming that Israel did launch a huge strike against the terrorists in Lebanon and actively drove the terrorists out of the country, it is illogical to assume, they pointed out, that the terrorists would move to Jordan. They would move across to Syria, with which the terrorists have close contact. They would not risk fighting the Jordanian Army that pushed them into Lebanon in 1970, and which is known to be deployed in strength along the Syrian frontier, through which the terrorists would have to flee.

One could suppose, these sources added, that the Jordanian Army -- the best fighting force in the area besides Israel -- would be highly motivated to prevent the terrorists from threatening Husayn's rule.

Sharon has stated repeatedly that it is Israel's intention to maintain the cease-fire along the Lebanese front, but has warned that Israel would be forced to respond to any terrorist attack, regardless of whether it came from the north, elsewhere in Israel or if it were directed against Jewish or Israeli objectives abroad. He has been repeatedly reported, recently as having proposed that the time for an Israel response was ripe. In Beirut, UPI reports that Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Aleksandr Soldatov said yesterday that he did not believe Israel was planning to attack Syria or Lebanon as predicted by several international news media, including the official Soviet news agency TASS.

POST: BEGIN PUTS THE WORLD 'ON NOTICE'

TA240737 Jerusalem POST in English 24 Feb 82 p 10

[Editorial: "Mr Begin's Odd Ultimatum"]

[Text] Senior defence officials here have dismissed the plan for an offensive in Lebanon attributed by TIME magazine to Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon as a preposterous lie. The alleged Sharon plan must indeed be all stuff and nonsense, it only because it would require Israel to launch a simultaneous assault on Jordan so it would allow the entry of PLO combatants now in Lebanon. This could, as TIME suggests, accord with Mr Sharon's well-known design for the conversion of the Hashemite kingdom into the Palestinian state, but it is absurd all the same. There is another logical difficulty with any such plan: Its success might lead to the establishment of peace in the north, but in the long run it would be likely to recreate a terrorist problem in the east.

Nevertheless, war is still looming in the north. Prime Minister Menahem Begin has in fact put the country, and the rest of the world, on notice, through an interview on Colombian television, but widely distributed, that Israel would take "immediate action" if even a single Israeli citizen were killed on any front" in a terrorist outrage. Plainly Mr Begin was not threatening a limited retaliatory raid of the kind practiced in the more distant past, but probably an expanded version of the Litani operation, designed to crush, once and for all, the rearmed and regrouped terrorists in Lebanon, even at the risk of conflict with Syria.

Since the PLO is no match for the Israel Army, and since Syria is now riven by internal conflict and largely isolated in the Arab world, Israel might be able to achieve its military goal without undue difficulty. But even assuming that the outside world, including the U.S. -- and Syria's patron, the Soviet Union, offered this country enough time for a complete military victory, where would the victory leave Israel?

In the dog-house, that's where. For this would be an unprovoked war, launched upon a mere excuse lamely presented as a casus belli, and in violation of Israel's express obligations under the recently agreed cease-fire. The strain it would put on Israel's relations with its few remaining friends could be intolerable. The peace with Egypt might be in jeopardy, even if Cairo took no step to renounce it before the final Sinai withdrawal. The one argument in favour of Mr Begin's airing his warning -- presumably he has already passed it on through diplomatic channels -- is that it could act as a deterrent. But deterrence sometimes fails, especially when it is applied to so disparate a group as the PLO. If that happens, Mr Begin will have either to eat his words -- or to force the nation into a dubious and dangerous war.

PERES VIEWS RELATIONS WITH JORDAN, U.S. ARMS DEAL

TA231847 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1730 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Jerusalem, 23 Feb -- Israel must make plain to Jordan that it wants to reach a peace arrangement with it, both permanently and gradually, but we must also make plain that if Jordan becomes a danger to Israel, it will also become a danger to itself. [sentence as received] This was stated today by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres, appearing before members of the Commercial Club at the Moria Hotel in Jerusalem.

Mr Peres devoted the lion's share of his speech to the Jordanian question and took a serious view of the possibility that the United States might supply Jordan with modern weapons which would turn it "from a wasp flying around Israel's forehead into a preying bird." He emphasized that Israel and Jordan are not as far apart from each other in terms of time and distance as Israel and Egypt. According to Peres, the closeness between Elat and Al-'Aqaba, between the roads leading from the south into the center of both countries and between the plants around the Dead Sea -- all these elements will make both countries "be dependent on each other due to their closeness, the threat and the level of tension that will evolve will make life for both countries impossible."

Therefore, expressing the Alignment's position, the chairman of the Labor Party believes that Israel should appeal to the U.S. public and convince it that Washington should play the role of "a peace supplier rather than an arms supplier to Jordan." In his opinion, the Israeli campaign against the arms supply would be strengthened if we came out in support of the United States strengthening its relations with Jordan but on the condition that the latter join the peace process. Mr Peres rejected the U.S. claim that if it does not supply modern weapons to Jordan, the Soviet Union will do so.

"The problem is not a missile, but a policy," Mr Peres noted while also rejecting the argument that Jordan would endanger itself if it joined the peace process. "We have seen that Egypt did not endanger itself but the rejectionist states did imperil their status," Peres explained. He pointed out that "Jordan might be more dangerous to Israel than the PLO" and added that Israel should ask itself whether it is ready "to reach an arrangement with Jordan which would include concessions by both sides." According to Peres, one should not be overly impressed by King Husayn's statements and one "should watch more for interests than for words, for needs than for displays."

Mr Peres believes that a PLO state in the West Bank is more dangerous to Jordan than to Israel. 'Arafat's first target would be -- according to Peres -- the Hashemite dynasty and only later would he turn to Israel. Shim'on Peres said: "I have a friend in Jordan who once told me: If Husayn, 'Arafat and yourself were in the same room and 'Arafat held a gun loaded with one bullet I would not be scared if I were in your place. Let Husayn be scared."

The Labor party chairman noted that we must tell Jordan directly that we want to reach an agreement and live in true neighborliness. We must also, however, make plain to Jordan that raising the level of tension would boomerang. Peres added, "To the United States we must say: We welcome your arrival to establish peace, but do not imitate the arms-supplying policy of the Soviet Union by raising the tension and widening the gap between Jordan and Israel."

As for the targets of Israel's policy, Shim'on Peres stressed that the Alignment's position is that Israel should take care not to annex another 1.3 million Arabs against their will. Peres noted that "in spite of the enthusiasm prevailing today we must remember that all the gross mistakes in history were enthusiastically committed by the pertinent generation. Let us be careful not to turn Israel into a binational state composed of two nations fighting for the same territory. Let us see to not making a mistake which would be paid for by many generations to come."

The chairman of the Labor Party noted that the question of whether to send a joint Likud-Alignment information delegation to the United States was not a central question at all. Such a delegation would be a mere drop in a large ocean. The central question is the sort of policy we adopt "toward Jordan." According to Peres, we should negotiate with Jordan -- in coordination with Egypt -- not on the basis of maps and a declaration of intents but on the basis of an opening stand founded on Security Council Resolution 242 or the Camp David accords or both. Nevertheless, the position of the Alignment is that the IDF should in any case remain along the Jordan River to insure that a foreign army does not cross it. Mr Peres further called for maintaining the "rather reasonable" relationship with Jordan which includes an agreement on the issue of water, preventing the infiltration of terrorist, arrangements in the Dead Sea and so on.

ALIGNMENT WILL NOT JOIN DELEGATION TO U.S.

TA231943 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Representatives of the Alignment faction will not join a joint parliamentary delegation which the prime minister had proposed to send to the United States to explain Israel's opposition to the intended arms deals with Jordan. Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres this evening sent a letter to the prime minister suggesting that a date soon be set for a meeting between representatives of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee to discuss Israel's opposition to the intended arms deals. An agreement in principle about such a meeting was reached a few weeks ago between the chairmen of both committees.

PRO-ISRAELI DRUZE JOINING GOLAN HEIGHTS STRIKE

TA231315 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 Feb 82 p 2

[Report by Yehuda Tzur]

[Text] The heads of the local councils in the villages of Majdal Shams and Buq'ata have stopped cooperation with Israeli authorities and the council staff members have joined the Druze strike in the Golan Heights, which is entering its 10th day.

The head of the council in Buq'ata Village has in the past been considered to be pro-Israeli and has spoken in favor of ties with Israel, but under pressure from the pro-Syrian elements he has recently reversed his position and yesterday announced that he was joining the strike. The Ministry of the Interior's Yisra'el Koenig, who is in charge of the Northern District, has informed council heads that if they do not resume their duties within 10 days, the government ministries will begin the process of replacing them with other Druze. In reply, the council heads said that they did not intend to resign of their own free will and if the authorities wish, they can dismiss them.

Four of the members of the Mas'adah Local Council have resigned their posts, thus leaving the council with only one member in addition to Muhsin Abu Salah, the council head. Despite this, the Mas'adah council is continuing to function normally and supply the local residents with services. Officials of Bank Le'umi in Mas'adah yesterday reported that not one inhabitant had appeared at the bank counters to receive National Insurance Institute payments. In this way the Druze had carried out their threat to refuse to receive benefits from the State of Israel.

The Galilee police spokesman has reported that an inhabitant of the village has been arrested for interfering with a council official who was trying to distribute allowance payments to local inhabitants. The feeble link established at the end of last week at a meeting between Defense Ministry representative Nahman Lev and leaders of the strikers was severed when a senior official yesterday announced that the government would not conduct any negotiations with the strikers until the end of the strike.

Yesterday strikers' representatives admitted for the first time that they would not be satisfied with the release of the four arrested leaders and the main point of their demands was nonapplication of Israeli law to the Druze inhabitants of the area. Yesterday, committees in the northern area, which are organizing to support the Druze strikers in the Golan Heights, began to act. One committee was established in Haifa and a second in Daliyat al Karmel, supported by elements identified with RAKAH.

SOURCES SAY GOLAN DRUZE UNREST TO SUBSIDE

TA231126 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] Last night senior Jerusalem sources estimated that the ferment of the Golan Heights Druze will subside within a few days.

The sources said, in reply to a question, that government treatment of the Druze ferment had been coordinated between the government ministries involved in the affair. According to those sources, the attempt to curb the Druze rebellion [meri] by using representatives of the prime minister had been made in coordination with the other authorities working in the field. These sources also claimed that representatives of the Ministry of Defense who had arrested the Druze leaders had implemented a decision made at governmental levels.

Over the last few days the prime minister has been holding consultations about the situation in the Golan Heights. It is expected that the involvement of the Ministry of the Interior in the attempts to bring back order to the Golan Heights will increase during the next few days.

JUDAEA, SAMARIA INHABITANTS SUPPORT GOLAN DRUZE

TA231002 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Judaea and Samaria inhabitants have organized relief activity to express solidarity with the Golan Druze who have been on strike for more than a week protesting the application of Israeli law to the Golan Heights. This morning the head of the Judaea and Samaria charity organizations, Amin al-Khatib, issued a call to the inhabitants of the territories to extend help to the Golan inhabitants who are on strike by donating money and goods.

GOLAN DRUZE HOLDING ISRAELI CARDS JOIN STRIKE

TA231718 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The Druze on the Golan Heights continue their strike. Our correspondent, Yo'el Dar, reports that the strikers were joined today by some Druze holding Israeli identification cards.

According to them, they joined the strike because they had not received any assistance from the government.

POLITICAL CIRCLES AID GOLAN HEIGHTS STRIKERS

TA240708 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Political circles in Israel and in the West Bank have begun to help the Druze strikers in the Golan Heights. The support is taking the form of medical aid, legal advice and explanatory actions. The strike is also continuing today, the 11th consecutive day, and at noon there will be a clarification in Nazareth with the directors of the schools who have joined the strike. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports:

The strike in the Druze villages in the Golan Heights has ceased being only a matter for the inhabitants who oppose the application of Israeli law to them. Political elements and public figures, Jews, Arabs and Druze in Haifa and the north of Israel organized this week with the aim of speeding open aid to the strikers. Some of the members of the public committees which have suddenly sprung up belong to RAKAH and some of them are not members, at least officially, of any party. In Judaea and Samaria, too, there is interest in the strike. Over the last few days doctors, apparently from the Nabulus area, have been visiting the Golan Heights villages, and examining patients who are boycotting the sick fund clinics. The person who is responsible for the Israeli clinics in the Golan Heights tells us about this:

[Sick Fund Official, unidentified] I know of a group of people who are boycotting the clinics; I know, from talks with inhabitants, that several doctors have come from the West Bank. They come to a different village every day to give medical treatment to those people who do not want to go to the sick fund these days because of the religious boycott imposed upon them.

[Dar] The strike in the Golan Heights will also continue today, apparently in full, but there are signs indicating a break in the deadlock and unofficial and unbinding contacts being held between religious leaders and various envoys, with the aim of ending the strike.

HA'ARETZ: DRUZE UNDERGOING LEADERSHIP CRISIS

TA240946 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Feb 82 p 8

[Report by correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] The first indications of an easing of the strike in the Druze villages on the Golan Heights were evident yesterday, following an announcement by the religious clerics on the Golan that they do not intend to excommunicate Druze who violate the strike. "The strike now underway on the Golan is social and not religious," they say.

In recent days many Druze have related that they are afraid to report for work in Israel for fear that they will be excommunicated by the religious clerics. In the past, Druze holding Israeli identity cards were subjected to excommunication.

For the first time in years, the Golan clerics have decided to appoint a spokesman who will accurately reflect their views. This decision comes in the wake of the conflicting statements that have been issued in the name of the religious clerics. "Not everyone who wears a white turban is a religious cleric," a group of clerics said yesterday in Majdal Shams.

This announcement by the religious figures reinforces the view that there has been a leadership crisis among the Druze ever since the detention of the four Druze leaders at the end of last week. The religious clerics are against Druze joining the Communist Party, and have stated that they will excommunicate anyone who joins that party. Doctors and nurses in Galilee villages, who are known to identify with the left, yesterday treated Druze residents, and foodstuffs are being sent to them by leftist activists. Activists in the Herut movement residing in Jewish settlements on the Golan met on Monday evening in Katzrin and decided to form a special actions staff that will work to block RAKAH activities among the Druze. They call on the prime minister to intervene in events on the Golan.

WEST BANK SECURITY FORCES PLACED ON ALERT

TA241010 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Feb 82 p 16

[Report by 'Amos Levav]

[Text] An alert [konenut] has been declared among the security forces in Judaea and Samaria in view of the growing tension among the local population. Isolated disruptions of order occurred yesterday in Nabulus and Janin.

The security forces fear that the explosive situation and the disruptions of order are liable to spread rapidly.

Yesterday, two stone-throwers were detained. Young persons who admitted to throwing stones 2 days ago were fined 4,000 to 7,000 shekels. Their trials were held in the Nabulus Military Court.

Even though studies are continuing at An-Najah University, the security forces fear that there will be disruptions there too in the wake of the closure of Bi'r Zayt University.

KENYAN FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESSES OAU SESSION

EA231034 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Dr Roberto Ouko, has reaffirmed the OAU's plan that the UN Security Council Resolution 435 remained the only acceptable framework for Namibia's independence. Dr Ouko was addressing the OAU foreign ministers' budgetary session which opened yesterday in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

Speaking in his capacity as the outgoing chairman of the OAU Council of Ministers, Dr Ouko outlined the efforts made by the pan-African body last year in pursuit of a solution to the Namibian problem. He said the OAU message to the world was that the international community must act in concert to bring about the immediate independence through the unconditional and unamended application of UN Security Council Resolution 435.

The Kenyan foreign minister also gave details of attempts made so far to resolve the Chad problem. He reported that following the recent meeting in Nairobi of the OAU standing committee on Chad a cease-fire was expected to take effect in that country on 28th February. In the meantime, he said, the OAU peacekeeping and observer forces in Chad will be reinforced by new arrivals from Benin, Togo, Guinea, as well as from Algeria, Congo and Gabon. He announced that, following the cease-fire, negotiations for a constitution would be started under OAU supervision on 15th March so that new administrative institutions may be installed in Chad by the end of June, when the peacekeeping forces would be withdrawn.

While acknowledging press reports on the reaction of the current transition government in Chad, Dr Ouko said, however, that no official communication had been received from that country concerning decisions of the Nairobi meeting. In his lengthy speech the minister also spoke about the OAU efforts in Western Sahara, South African aggressions against neighboring African states and economic problems facing the continent.

KING HASSAN PROTESTS OAU DECISION TO KODJO

LD231324 Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 23 Feb 82

["Text of King Hassan's message to OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo" -- MAP headline]

[Text] Rabat, 23 Feb (MAP) -- To the OAU secretary general, Mr Edem Kodjo, Addis Ababa.

Mr Secretary General,

We learned with stupefaction of the decision made by one of the commissions of the OAU General Secretariat to recognize the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic as a new member of our OAU.

This decision, made in complete disregard of the provisions of our charter and in blatant violation of all the norms of content and form ruling our OAU, is obviously null and void and should not have any effect on the members of our organization.

We are therefore profoundly indignant that you have deemed that you could or should allow one of your administrative structures to engage in such an abuse of power and to take a measure that in no way comes within its attributions or prerogatives. And, despite the fact that this fresh defiance of the African conscience cannot but constitute a provocation to Morocco, let its authors be sure that, on our part, we are determined to remain strongly attached to the principles of the OAU charter and to the various decisions made, notably the ones contained in the three relevant Nairobi summits.

Therefore, we expect you to take all adequate or necessary measures so that OAU legality may be restored and that the illegal measure tending to recognition of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic as a possibly member of the OAU be revoked.

Highest consideration, Hassan II King, of Morocco.

English Version

LD231406 Rabat MAP in English 1246 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Rabat, 23 Feb (MAP) -- King Hassan II addressed on Tuesday a protest message to Kenyan President arap Moi and acting chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and to the organization's Secretary General Edem Kodjo, following the masquerade of Addis Ababa during which the so-called Arab Saharan Democratic Republic SDAR was admitted to have a seat at OAU's ministers' council.

Following is the text of these messages:

To the chairman of the OAU:

"Mister President,

"We have learnt, today, that the OAU, meeting in a routine session in Addis Ababa, decided to make the SDAR participate in its works as a constituent member of our African assembly. It is a double assassination on the part of the administrative secretariat of the OAU.

"In the first place, it is your excellency who is aimed at as a first victim, wanting to deliberately expose your person and your prestige to the ridicule of the accomplished fact, and this constitutes, in politics, a deadly weapon.

"Then, by this stand, its authors wanted to strike a deadly blow to the credibility of our assembly of which you are acting chairman.

"For its part, Morocco, who knows the status and regulations of the OAU for having been a founding member, solemnly reiterates its attachment to the resolutions adopted during the three summits of Nairobi.

"Nothing could make it reconsider its commitments concerning the cease-fire and the referendum in the Sahara. Nothing could make us take an attitude as deep-seated as has [as received] because all African heads of state are concerned by this decision which stems from juridical hold-up and brigandage.

"I would be grateful to you, mister president of the republic, to seriously consider this matter and to fulfill your mission which mainly consists in being the vigilant guard of African respectability and credibility that we all, African heads of state, had put in your hands in Nairobi in June 1981."

W. SAHARA ISSUE CAUSING OAU SESSION DEADLOCK

NC231547 Paris AFP in English 1527 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Addis Ababa, 23 Feb (AFP) -- The meeting of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Council of Ministers here remained deadlocked this morning as a row over the surprise admission yesterday of the self-proclaimed Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) to the session continued. Observers said the stalemate may cause the week-long meeting to be adjourned and the issue could split the troubled OAU. Informed sources said that opponents of admitting the SADR for the first time -- which prompted Morocco to walk out in protest yesterday, the first day of the council's annual budgetary and administrative session -- attacked the move as procedurally wrong and said it was made without the authority of the OAU heads of state.

But Moroccan delegates returned to their seats today "to defend our position," Rabat's chief delegate Mohammed Halim said. Mr Halim said yesterday's walkout was staged to stress the importance Morocco attached to the seating of the SADR. Some sources said that today's session seemed to be going on "in a void". Kenyan Foreign Minister Robert Ouko announced that he had completed his mission as council chairman and was retiring from that position. But the sources said that elections of new officers could not be carried out before the SADR issue was resolved as the vote would amount to recognition by the conference of the seating of the group, set up by the Polisario guerrilla movement that has been fighting Morocco since 1975 for control of the Western Sahara.

"If the admission was confirmed as a fait accompli, those accountable for the act and their supporters would have taken the responsibility for sabotaging all the efforts in the OAU and all that has been deplored by the OAU heads of state," Mr Halim said. He said that this could not be condoned by those who do not wish to see the OAU fall into the chaos of "irresponsible and unthinking decisions."

Sudan yesterday challenged the SADR entry on a point of order. Sources said that Khartoum remained firmly opposed to the admission procedure today. Other opponents were Senegal, Gabon, Nigeria, Mauritius, Cameroon and Guinea, conference sources said.

Meanwhile, SADR Information Minister Mohamed Ould Salek, said his government had become the 51st member of the OAU, according to the charter which he said provided an automatic mechanism for the entry of new members. He accused Morocco of having walked out of OAU meetings several times in previous years -- in protest against Mauritanian admission in 1963 and from the Mauritius and Lome sessions in 1976 and 1977. It was not known whether current OAU Chairman Daniel arap Moi, who had been given the job of negotiating a date for a ceasefire and the organisation of a referendum on self-determination in the disputed area, had known in advance or had approved of SADR's admission to the conference.

Delegates Decide To Continue

NC231830 Paris AFP in English 1820 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Addis Ababa, 23 Feb (AFP) -- Delegates at an Organization of African Unity ministerial council meeting here today decided against adjourning the session despite major differences over the admission to the council chamber of representatives of Saharan Arab Democratic Republic [SADR], the movement fighting Morocco for control of the old Spanish Sahara. The outgoing council chairman, who relinquished his position after making an inaugural speech, had agreed to take the job back long enough for a new bureau to be elected, and this had happened, sources close to the conference said here.

The Moroccan delegation, which walked out of the conference when the SADR delegation installed itself, said it would take part in the council to raise the problem of SADR admission.

Foreign ministers at the conference spent one and a half days discussing whether the meeting could begin with the SADR representatives seated. During "informal discussion" a clear majority -- roughly 40 to 10 -- came out in favour of getting on with the council's work.

EIGHT DELEGATIONS WALK OUT OF 23 FEB OAU SESSION

NC231848 Paris AFP in English 1845 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Addis Ababa, 23 Feb (AFP) -- Delegates from eight African countries walked out of the Organisation of African Unity ministerial council meeting here today to protest the admission of a delegation from the self-proclaimed Saharan Arab Democratic Republic [SADR]. The walkout followed a decision by a majority of the 50 delegations at this regular meeting to go ahead with the session -- rather than adjourn it -- despite a split on the Saharan issue. Work on the council agenda had been held up for a day and a half because of disagreement over the admission of an SADR delegation.

The protesting countries were Cameroon, Central Africa, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Senegal, Sudan and Zaire. Gabon and Somalia expressed disapproval of the presence of the Saharan delegation but said they would take part in the proceedings other than those concerning the SADR. Today's vote in favour of pursuing the meeting, which had been blocked over the issue, was 20 to nine (out of 50 member countries).

Three More Walk Out

NC241041 Paris AFP in English 1025 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, 24 Feb (AFP) -- Three more states walked out of the Organisation of African Unity Council of Ministers today in protest at the presence of the Polisario Front's Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR). The departure of Djibouti, Niger and Tunisia was prompted by a formal welcome to the SADR delegation by Council Chairman Archie Mogwe, the foreign minister of Botswana.

Mr Mogwe, who was appointed chairman only yesterday, also indicated that the SADR would be taking part in the financing of the OAU. The Council of Ministers continued with its normal agenda following the walk-out by the three protesters, who said they would be suspending their participation in the meeting until further notice.

The dispute widened when Mr Mogwe said today, "We welcome the admission of the SADR delegation and the SADR's accession to the membership of the OAU. We are sure they will contribute to our work as well as share the burden of the organisation."

The leader of the Djibouti delegation said in a letter to Mr Mogwe that his country could not participate in the presence of a delegation that did not qualify as a state. And the Tunisian representative told AGENCE-FRANCE PRESSE that his delegation was pulling out "so that African unity can be restored again."

The three withdrawals came after OAU Secretary-General Edem Kodjo formally presented a budget of 21.9 million U.S. dollars for 1982-83 and spoke of the "persistence in war and suffering" of the people of Western Sahara. However, all the delegations that have withdrawn have so far insisted that they were doing so for this meeting only, apparently leaving the door open for some intervention at the level of heads of state for a reversal of the SADR's admission. SADR Information Minister Ould Salek told a news conference last night that his country's admission proved the seriousness of the OAU and its capacity to resolve African conflicts.

LIBYAANTI-IMPERIALIST COMMITTEE ISSUES STATEMENT

LD231644 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The preparatory committee for the general conference of the International Forum To Fight Imperialism, Zionism, Racism and Reaction concluded its work at the conference hall in the Ash-Shati Hotel in Tripoli at noon today. The following statement was issued by the committee:

In implementation of the resolutions of the International Conference for Solidarity With the People of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya held in Tripoli from 21 to 23 August, 1981, calling for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to be considered as an international platform for resisting imperialism, Zionism, racism and reaction and in appreciation for the struggles of the Libyan Arab people and as an evaluation for the stances of the principled Great 1 September Revolution with regard to the people's struggles and their liberation which are embodied in [words indistinct] struggle for freedom and the unity of confronting imperialism, Zionism, racism and reaction, the preparatory committee for the International Forum To Fight Imperialism, Zionism, Racism and Reaction held its first meeting in Tripoli from 21 to 23 February, 1982, to adopt the executive measures for the general conference of the international forum. It stresses that the international forum is the living expression of the people's conscience the genuine embodiment of their will for liberation and breaking out of bondage, the revolutionary (?rejuvenation) of their struggle against imperialism, Zionism, racism and reaction, the uplifting of their political, military, economic and social effectiveness at a time when the features of the assault of world imperialism, under the leadership of the United States have become apparent. Their plots against the peoples and the plans to steal the freedom of the peoples, to threaten their independence, to destroy their choices through a blatant imperialist intrigue, to threaten peace and security and world detente, to engulf the world and to politically dominate it by extending their aggressive alliance with reactionary, fascist, dictatorial, racist and Zionist forces, and to militarily dominate them by (?deploying) military bases and by widening their scope and by increasing military provocations against the people's security and safety, and to dominate them economically by increasing the exploitation of the people's resources, to enhance the growth of economic monopolies and to extend the scope of the multinational companies and to dominate them culturally by destroying the cultural independence and identity of the peoples -- a matter which demands a revival of the people's struggle to create a new world molded by the living people's forces determined to realize their choices, to preserve their unity and to protect their democratic freedom and deepen their political, economic and social liberation -- demand the strengthening of the unified struggle of these living forces to inflict a final defeat on colonialism, reaction, and racism and to liquidate all aspects of their political encirclement, military domination and economic monopolies.

The preparatory committee, while confirming the inevitable defeat of the imperialist forces under the leadership of the United States and its reactionary, fascist and dictatorial tools, expresses its confidence that the struggle for freedom is an indivisible unit, the responsibility for which is shouldered by the living forces of the peoples and to which all the revolutionary and progressive forces in the world are committed in order to realize a world in which freedom, progress and peace can prevail. Thus, the committee stresses:

First, The establishment of a international forum for resisting imperialism, Zionism, racism and reaction in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is an embodiment of the unity of struggle of the peoples exposed to aggression by imperialism and its racist and reactionary tools, and it gains new legality from the collective responsibility of the peoples to confront all aspects of imperialist hegemony over any arena and on every front and in every place through all political and military means. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is a revolutionary and struggle center working in coordination and integration with all the revolutionary political and social centers, forces and organizations opposed to imperialism.

Second, the establishment of the international forum in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya confirms the inevitability of confronting the Zionist-Imperialist-reactionary intrigue and the inevitability of challenging it by all oppressed peoples participating in this forum. Resisting imperialism and its tools will be the responsibility of the peoples and their revolutionary, progressive and democratic forces in order to confirm the depth of their faith in the inevitability of the victory of the peoples and the victory of their will and national choices.

Third, the legality of the struggle of the peoples to preserve their firm rights and to liberate their land and to defend their independence and to regain their firm national, political, economic and cultural rights is a human responsibility to whose unity, integration and escalation the living forces of the peoples are committed.

Fourth, the liquidation of monopolist imperialism and all forms of economic and cultural hegemony demands backing the struggle of the people to eliminate economic subservience and to liberate their resources from the domination of others and to help them implement their development programs to serve their national interests, and demands economic integration among peoples to back these programs and to collectively confront all attempts at subversion and economic blockade.

Fifth, stress is placed on the need to struggle to liquidate all aspects of racism and Zionism and all forms of racial discrimination and all inhuman practices against the minorities in order to reach a new world which preserves man's dignity and develops all aspects of creativeness and ingenuity without any distinction as regards color, race or religion.

Sixth, stress is placed on the need to support and back the world liberation movements in their political and armed struggle for the liberation of their peoples and to resist the imperialist projects, allies and military bases which threaten the security and the safety of the peoples and to resist all aspects of fascism, dictatorship, domination and terrorism led by rightist, reactionary and racist forces.

The preparatory committee, while stressing these principles which express the faith of the peoples in freedom and confirm their determination to collectively struggle to realize them in order to reach a new world in which freedom is consolidated and which confirms the masses' presence and control over their political, social and economic and cultural potentials, calls on all forces struggling for freedom and naturally opposed to world imperialism and its racist, reactionary, fascist, dictatorial and Zionist tools, to adopt practical steps for the establishment of an international platform for resisting imperialism, Zionism, racism and reaction on the soil of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in order to bring about the unity of the struggle of the peoples to strengthen their efforts and to cement their national and progressive choices in the framework of the integration and tightening of struggle action with the political and social establishment opposed to world imperialism and its attempted intrigues.

The preparatory committee for the International Forum To Fight Imperialism, Zionism, Racism and Reaction has considered the speech by Brother Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, and one of its official documents and appreciated his effective role in backing human struggle and in fighting world imperialism under the leadership of the United States. The preparatory committee has issued the following organizational decisions to set up the International Forum To Fight Imperialism, Zionism, Racism and Reaction.

First, decision No 1 approves the aims of the International Forum To Fight Imperialism, Zionism, Racism and Reaction.

Second, the preparatory committee listed the world liberation movements, the national fronts, parties and political organizations and world international organizations to be invited to attend the general conference of the international forum, in the Socialism People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah.

Third, the preparatory committee fixed the date for convening the general conference for the International Forum To Fight Imperialism, Zionism, Racism and Reaction for 15 through 18 May in Tripoli.

Fourth, the preparatory committee has chosen from among its members a working committee to organize the political or organizational preparations needed for convening the conference, to be submitted to the preparatory committee at its next meeting.

Fifth, the preparatory committee fixed the date of its next meeting in Tripoli for 12 through 14 May 1982, to study the arrangements prepared by the working committee to be submitted to the meeting of the general conference of the international platform.

RADIO NOTES SECRETARY HAIG'S 'SECRET REMARKS'

NC210826 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Text] The despot General Haig, the U.S. secretary of state, has disclosed another aspect of the hostile U.S. plots against the Jamahiriyyah and provided evidence of the terrorism the U.S. administration is exercising against the Libyan Arab people.

The Washington POST has published remarks by the U.S. secretary of state -- which Haig had made in secret notes -- regarding the U.S. plot against the Libyan Arab people. These secret remarks, which were dated 18 January, said inter alia: It seems that the time has come to put into effect the second phase against Libya. At the beginning of February the Americans will be out of Libya. Therefore, the situation is suitable for carrying out another action.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI ADDRESSES NATIONAL PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

JN221718 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Feb (SUNA) -- Addressing the members of the Fifth National People's Assembly in its first session today, President Numayri said: You have come to this assembly entrusted by the people to be their loud voice, to defend their causes and national unity and to struggle for their objectives and aspirations for a future that promises prosperity. Numayri stressed that the May revolution was launched to achieve national unity and to struggle to establish a society where there will be no place for ideologies, regional chauvinism and destructive factionalism.

The revolution was established to achieve a national unity that will foster comprehensive development for the homeland and for all its sons, particularly in the countryside.

President Numayri referred to regional rule as an achievement through which the Sudanese individual may hope to build a better future with maturity and awareness, a future where the citizen will live within regional entities having their own legislative and executive bodies.

In his address to the Fifth National People's Assembly, President Numayri stressed that the revolution will not hesitate to protect the unity of the homeland, to support a strong popular alliance and to protect the security, stability and peace of the homeland. The revolution also will not hesitate to confront troubles, disturbances, sedition and disputes and will continue to remain the staunch guardian of the Constitution, the law, the regime and discipline. The revolution will never allow differences to destroy cohesion, nor disputes to undermine the unity of hearts, nor controversies to divert the homeland's attention from its urgent causes, historic options and current crises.

The president spoke of the division of the southern province and the disputes that this issue had caused. The president said that this issue nearly threatened unity and opened the door to rancorous and covetous elements.

President Numayri drew attention to the civil war in the southern sector, saying that it is still in the minds of the Sudanese people with all its tragedies. He stressed in this respect that the revolution will not permit such a bloody period to recur, regardless of the efforts and sacrifices that have to be made to prevent it.

Addressing the People's Assembly, President Numayri announced that in order to preserve the unity of the south, he had decided to end the transitional period in the southern province and to hold elections there in April this year as scheduled. He also decided to hold elections for the regional People's Assembly in April this year.

The president urged the province's provisional government to cooperate in preparing for a dialogue between the advocates and opponents of division in order to reach a formula that can consolidate decentralization in the south within the framework of one province so that amity and fraternity among the province's sons can be achieved and all can take part in building the homeland as one heart and one hand and close the door in the face of the enemies of Sudan and its unity.

President Numayri stressed that the revolution will continue to reject a multiplicity of parties, considering this multiplicity a facade for division. He added that the revolution will also reject ready-made formulas and imported experiences. He said the comprehensive political work within the framework of a comprehensive political structure according to the Constitution we accepted is the ideal formula expressing the real situation of Sudan which embodies Sudan's aspirations and unity as all will meet within this structure, under which they can cooperate and interact and under which individual judgments and concepts are diversified, dialogue is respected and decisions are made by the majority. There will be no scope for single acts, only for the institutions which are under no faction's custody or sovereignty.

President Numayri announced that the results of his recent meetings with the leaders of national action in the legislative, political and executive organs as well as in the people's armed forces and the regular forces have stressed the soundness of Sudan's basic opinion that a unified political structure, based on a coalition of the people's working forces, is the real comprehensive mold in which to crystallize national unity. He added that this unified comprehensive structure is the effective administrative means to achieve the homeland's aims in freedom, socialism and democracy.

He added that, during these meetings, it was stressed that a presidential government is the ideal formula for rule in Sudan as it really meets the homeland's need for unity of will and soil.

President Numayri also stressed that all the recommendations made during his meetings with these bodies support the economic revival program that was formulated last November. The president said the recommendations also called for a reassessment of the political structure experiment and the activities of the executive bodies, as well as for holding comprehensive conferences to discuss strategies in education, economy and foreign policy. The president added that these conferences are currently being prepared and that, to render these conferences successful, the homeland opens its arms to all its sons who are capable of contributing to and enriching this experiment.

The president spoke about the economic revival program being implemented to achieve a financial and economic policy reform. President Numayri said great steps are being taken in this field to reduce government expenditure by 20 million pounds and secure revenues for the treasury of 50 million pounds in a single year.

President Numayri said Sudan's foreign debts have recently become so great that it has been necessary to reassess the situation completely to know where Sudan stands, to reschedule Sudan's foreign debts and to lay down a formula for this.

President Numayri stated that the state had begun to implement the basic economic program on suspending subsidies on flour and sugar gradually and to open the door to imports by the public and private sectors in the future.

The president said the state will remain committed to a constant and clear policy on exports to avoid any fluctuation that might affect the volume of exports and result in losing foreign markets. From this premise, there will be no restrictions on exports this season and the governors of the provinces have been asked to secure a precautionary reserve in addition to the national reserve.

President Numayri said the Ministry of Cooperation, Commerce and Supply and the Ministry of Finance and National Economy will channel grants and loans that Sudan obtains from friendly and fraternal countries toward the import of basic commodities and the procurement of basic reserves to improve the supply of consumer goods and to achieve a flexible balance between local consumption and increased exports in order to improve the balance of payments.

On Sudan's foreign moves, President Numayri said Sudan is trying to strengthen contacts with various governments and competent bodies to further increase and develop exports and to promote our commercial relations with Arab and African states, particularly those neighbors who are trying to reduce border trade with Sudan.

President Numayri briefed the assembly on the future steps to back agriculture, cooperation and industry to guarantee a perfect performance in these activities. He explained that industrialization in Sudan will be linked through a well-defined strategy to the other agricultural production sectors which constitute the main basis for Sudan's industrial development. This is in addition to encouraging the manufacture of basic consumer goods to meet local needs to export a surplus.

The president said land surveying and oil excavations have had positive results. Efforts are being made, the president said, to ensure enough sources to finance the establishment of the (Rabk) refinery and the installation of pipelines to pump the crude oil from Al-Wahdah field to the refinery site. He explained that Sudan had signed agreements on mining and assaying the gold ores in the Red Sea Hills and the northern province. Other agreements have also been signed to mine uranium ores in the (Nurab) mountains and other minerals in different parts of the country.

The president disclosed for the first time the completion of studies on the technical and economic feasibility of building the new Sudanese port on the Mediterranean. The president said that this port will allow strategic access to Sudan and that it comes within the framework of the policy of integration between the two parts of the Nile Valley.

On Sudan's foreign policy, the president said Sudan will continue to serve its objectives of building the internal front and further promote international cooperation, yet without failing to shoulder our responsibilities toward the causes of liberation and peace. Sudan, the president added, will, to the best of its ability, serve the cause of Arab rights in achieving the supreme objectives of the Arab nation in full coordination with its Arab brothers, particularly Arab rights in Palestine, liberation of the occupied territories, especially the holy city of Jerusalem, and enabling the valiant Palestinian people to determine their own future and establish their own state.

President Numayri asserted that Sudan wants wounds to be healed and Arab solidarity to be further bolstered to face the challenges of this historic stage through which our Arab nation is passing. The president described this stage as serious in light of Israel's excessive violation of international law in building more settlements in the Arab territories, annexing Arab land, threatening Lebanon's unity and security and shelling Arab installations.

The president added that, although it looks impossible at present to achieve Arab solidarity, Sudan sees that there are some developments in the Arab homeland that spark hope for bringing about this objective. He referred to Egypt's continued role in liberating the Arabs, the Saudi peace initiative and the creation of the GCC.

President Numayri emphasized that, even during the most critical stages, Sudan has underlined the importance of further deepening Arab solidarity, which is the pillar of the Arab nation's confrontation of all challenges. The president called on the nation's peoples and leaders to pave the way for Arab solidarity, particularly since we are on our way to the Fes Arab Summit.

On Sudan's African policy, President Numayri stressed that Sudan's main principles are based on backing the African struggle in Namibia and South Africa against colonialism and racial discrimination. This policy, the president said, is also based on the principles of neighborliness, noninterference in the internal affairs of other states and promotion of bilateral and regional cooperation with these states.

Giving an example to this effect, the president pointed to the creation of joint bilateral committees with states like Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Zaire. He also outlined the ongoing efforts to convene a summit for Nile Basin states to strengthen the joint ties among them and follow up the proposed plans to utilize the Nile waters.

President Numayri talked about Sudan's efforts to enhance the stability of African countries and to protect these countries, as well as its efforts to calm the continent's areas of tension. In this regard, he talked about Sudan's efforts to contain Somali-Ethiopian differences and to solve the Eritrean issue peacefully. The president said: Sudan's policies in this respect have received increasing support and there is tangible evidence for Sudan's sound options and good relations with most neighboring states. This, he said, enabled Sudan to draw up a plan on containing the Western Sahara dispute -- a plan approved by the OAU and the disputing parties. This also enabled Sudan to take initiatives on the Chad issue based on the Libyan forces' withdrawal and on guaranteeing freedom to the Chadian people to determine their future. This has actually borne fruit, he said.

The president stressed that the Nonaligned Movement's principles will always mark Sudan's foreign policies.

He stressed that Sudan will under no circumstances be driven to the policy of international polarization nor will its lands hold foreign military bases. He added that Sudan will protect the Nonaligned Movement from falling victim to the maneuvers of disputing blocs and ideologies.

He stressed that Sudan will continue its work to bolster Islamic cooperation within the Islamic Conference Organization and will seek to contain differences among the Islamic countries and uphold these countries' causes. Out of this concept, the president called again for a halt to the fighting between Iraq and Iran. He also strongly denounced USSR military interference in Afghanistan.

On Sudan's international policy, President Numayri said that Sudan always seeks to expand cooperation with world states politically and economically through bilateral channels and regional and international meetings. In this regard, the president praised the cooperative steps Sudan has taken with the West European countries and the United States. He also praised Sudan's quick contacts with some Asian countries to obtain aid for Sudan during its current economic difficulty.

President Numayri asserted that Sudan will continue to honor its commitments to various regional, continental and international organizations and to work to further promote these organizations so they may gain more strength.

President Numayri pointed in this regard to Sudan's efforts to further develop the Arab League charter and the OAU and to its efforts in the United Nations to support the lesser developed countries to ensure a worldwide balance of economic relations and the creation of a new international economic system.

President Numayri, through his address to the Fifth National People's Assembly, and on behalf of the Sudanese people, sent greetings to fraternal Egypt, to the Gulf states -- particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia -- and to the other fraternal and friendly states for their positive role in backing Sudan.

While reviewing Sudan's economic development, the president said it is Sudan's fate that its reconstruction struggle coincides with a difficult international crisis that is adversely affecting and heavily burdening the peoples of the developing countries. The president said this fate imposes challenges on Sudan that cannot be faced except with national action committed to a feeling of responsibility, honesty and courage. He added that Sudan needs to exert more efforts and austerity to surmount these challenges. The president explained that it is important to apply this commitment, not only to the state economic program, but also to the lives of the people who should change and guide their consumption methods and to elevate the citizens' sincere feelings.

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI RELIEVES, RETIRES OFFICIALS

JN221852 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Feb (SUNA) -- President Numayri decreed today the relief of Brig Sherlino Orika from his post as commissioner of East Equatorial Province and Brig Hekok Jivo Siro from his post as commissioner of West Equatorial Province. The president has also issued a presidential decree retiring Police Inspector Maj Robin Mak.

TUNISIARECEPTION HELD FOR AL-QADHDHAFI IN SAFAQIS

LD240938 Tripoli JANA in English 0850 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Safaqis, 24 Feb (JANA) -- The revolution's leader arrived here at 4:10 pm yesterday on his way to the capital, Tunis. On his arrival, a big official and popular reception was held. Heading the reception party was the Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammed Mzali, and members of the government and the Council of State.

On his way from Ra's Ajdir to Safaqis, the leader was accompanied by Caid es-Sebsi, foreign minister, Slaheddine Baly, defence minister, and the director of protocol. The leader stopped at Madnin to greet the masses who came out to receive him.

WESTERN SAHARAIRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 20 FEB

LD201944 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Feb 82

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in the liberated Saharan territories this afternoon, heading an important delegation on a visit to the SDAR. He was welcomed by a number of Saharan officials, including the Minister of Transport and Energy Hamoudi Ahmed Baba, and the Minister of Health Salek Ould Bouyah.

Soon after his arrival, the Iranian minister was invited, together with the delegation, to a luncheon banquet offered in his honor by Saharan Prime Minister Mohamed Lamine.

With regard to Saharan-Iranian relations, we note that Mr Mohamad Mehdi Qarani yesterday presented his credentials in the liberated Saharan territories as an extraordinary ambassador to the SDAR. After the presentation of his letters of credence, he was received by the secretary-general of the Polisario Front, Mr Muhamed 'Abd al-Aziz.

ETHIOPIAEPFL CLAIMS 5,800 ETHIOPIAN CASUALTIES IN 2 DAYS

NC230905 Paris AFP in English 0745 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Feb (AFP) -- Eritrean guerrillas have said they killed or wounded 5,800 Ethiopian Government troops in battles in the province last Friday and Saturday as the Ethiopian Army continued its major offensive against separatist elements. A spokesman for the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) said here yesterday that 176 Ethiopians were also captured and 12 surrendered. The guerrillas seized 816 light weapons and 32 rocket launchers, and destroyed four tanks and seven trucks, he added.

During the battles the EPLF's military wing, the Eritrean People's Liberation Army (EPLA) "repulsed the enemy troops on the Barka front and forced them to retreat, leaving behind more than 3000 of them dead or wounded, 160 captured and 12 surrendering", the spokesman alleged. He said guerrillas seized 660 light weapons, 25 rocket launchers, 64 guns and seven radio sets, and destroyed two tanks and six trucks on this front. On the north-eastern Sahel front, where concentrated Ethiopian bombing and shelling took place, the guerrillas "beat back Ethiopian troops", killing or wounding 700 and capturing 16. The spokesman said the EPLA seized 156 light weapons, five rocket launcher, 21 guns and two radio sets. On the Afabet front, the spokesman said, guerrillas had killed 2000 attacking Ethiopian troops, wounded 100 and captured various kinds of weapons on Saturday. An EPLA "engineering corps" had destroyed two Soviet-made tanks and one truck at Felket in Sahel district.

SOMALIAPRESIDENT RECEIVES FRG PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

EA221806 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 2045 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Excerpt] The secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party and president of the Somali Democratic Republic, Challe Muhammad Siad Barre last night received an FRG defense and security parliamentary committee delegation, led by its chairman, his excellency (Weiner Martz). The president and the FRG delegation leader discussed bilateral issues, including the further strengthening of existing relations, and world problems. Challe Siad asked the leader of the delegation to convey his warm greetings to the president, government and people of Germany.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH DPRK VICE PREMIER

EA231154 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0450 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Challe Abdurrahman Jama Barre held talks at the ministry's headquarters with Vice Premier Comrade Chong Chun-ki of the DPRK, who is on an official visit to the Somali Democratic Republic. The minister and the Korean vice premier held bilateral talks on further strengthening their existing friendly relations and on world issues. Korean Vice Premier Chong Chun-ki presented a gift from Korean President Kim Il-song, to the Somali foreign minister. Abdurrahman Jama Barre expressed his appreciation of the gift from the Korean president and wished him good health and long life.

WSLF CLAIMS 50 ENEMY SOLDIERS KILLED BY MINES

EA231032 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and ABO Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 1930 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] The Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] freedom fighters recently killed 50 Abyssinian soldiers and burned out 2 vehicles in which the Abyssinian black colonialists were traveling when landmines laid by the WSLF freedom fighters blew them up near Dagahabur.

CLANDESTINE RADIO REPORTS DEATHS IN HARGEISA

EA232256 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Widespread rebellion and demonstrations against the Mogadishu terrorist regime are taking place in the northern regions of our country. While the disturbances cover the whole of the northern part, our reporter in Hargeisa said that after the recent clash there, several people were killed and many others wounded. Reports reaching us from Hargeisa say that deliberate killings by the terrorist regime have exceeded 25, with many others injured.

UGANDADEFENSE MINISTRY: ATTACK A 'DESPERATE ACTION'

EA231832 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] It is announced by the Ministry of Defense that the events of last night in Kampala were designed as a desperate action to capture not only Malire barracks but also to overthrow the government. This fact has emerged from statements made by captured terrorists and bandits. There is no truth whatsoever in (?any) claims the event of last night was a guerrilla hit-and-run attack. They fled in disarray but many of them were captured. They abandoned large quantities of arms including mortars, RPGs, machineguns and rifles.

Two soldiers lost their lives during the attack. Bodies of the attackers counted so far number 67 who died. There are 10 terrorists in critical condition, and others wounded who reported to private hospitals have now been transferred to government hospitals. The attackers did not enter nor did they cause any damage to any installations including the one barracks they wanted to capture and they did not capture any arms. Soon after the attack the army instead of firing back immediately was deployed strategically to contain the terrorists within the suburbs of Kampala. The terrorists in the meantime continued to fire indiscriminately. At sunrise the army, who had already surrounded the attackers, responded. That is why many of the attackers were killed, wounded and captured.

The vice president who is also the minister of defense, had a meeting this afternoon with the religious leaders of the Protestant and Catholic churches. The vice president briefed them on the events of last night and regretted the fact that the mortars used by the attackers were emplaced virtually on the doorsteps of the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Rubaga. This fact was equally regretted by the vicar general, who represented the cardinal at the meeting.

The religious leaders were told by the vice president that throughout the night officers of the government tried to contact them by telephone to warn the religious leaders that attacks were coming from the direction of the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Rubaga and the Protestant Cathedral of Namirembe.

This afternoon when officials went to both areas it was established that for some unknown reason telephones in the houses of the religious leaders in both areas had been taken off the hook.

This afternoon there was a report on overseas radio to the effect that the vice president was ambushed this morning and that four soldiers in his convoy were killed. This report is absolutely untrue and deserves to be condemned. Furthermore the same overseas radio station made the gross and untrue allegation that Uganda still had a battalion of Tanzanian Army stationed at Entebbe.

The true fact is that there are no Tanzanian Army personnel stationed in Uganda. Whoever planned the attack of last night should know that it was a complete disaster and a total failure and Ugandans should have no doubt about the truth of this statement. The events of last night clearly demonstrate what government has been saying throughout the past year, namely that the terrorists are concerned only in destruction.

The whole country knows that for the first time in more than 10 years the whole of Uganda has been making successful records in the establishment of peace and the creation of conditions that are conducive to development and raising the standard of living of every family. The president, as C-in-Cof the armed forces, has sent a message to the Uganda Armed Forces for the quick response to neutralize the situation and the exemplary conduct during the operation. The president wishes it to be known to the citizens that the policy of reconciliation and no revenge will continue.

VICE PRESIDENT SURVIVES ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

AB231723 Paris AFP in English 1710 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 23 Feb (AFP) -- Ugandan Vice-President Paulo Muwanga today survived an assassination attempt when his convoy was ambushed by terrorists, Tanzania's official news agency, SHIHATA, reported here. SHIHATA, quoting Ugandan security sources, said the attempt on Mr Muwanga's life took place in the morning at Najjanankumbi on the outskirts of Kampala on the Kampala-Entebbe highway. Mr Muwanga escaped unhurt but a number of the so-called terrorists were reported killed during an exchange of fire with the Ugandan security forces. A statement issued later by the Ugandan Government appealed to the police to hunt down the terrorists and also to report to suspicious character to the nearest authority.

SUNA REPORTS ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN KAMPALA

JN231808 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Feb (SUNA) -- The events which took place last night and this morning in Kampala, Uganda did not result in casualties said an informed Ugandan source to the correspondent of SUDAN NEWS AGENCY (SUNA). The same source said that the intensified bombardment operations which took place during the battles of last night and this morning aimed at exaggeration for the moral affection on the attackers whom the identity was not yet known.

(SUNA) correspondent says that the status quo is now normal in the other parts of Kampala and only was reported the abstention of some employees who dwell in Ningo Hill area.

Correspondent here reported that obscurity prevailed the situation in the Ugandan capital while reports described the fight as severe and violent this morning.

The ordinary life in the Ugandan capital is almost completely paralyzed where the schools were shut together with the offices, the banks and the public utilities. Meanwhile the traffic was halted and no passers or cars were seen except the vehicles loaded with soldiers and the police patrols, SUNA correspondent said.

According to SUNA correspondent in Kampala, the special units of forces took vital positions in Kampala behind barricades and are put in state of alert. A well informed source told SUNA that the current events in Kampala are the worse which Uganda has witnessed since last elections in December 1980.

Inspite of shooting which was heard yesterday night and today morning, obscurity prevailed the situation while Ugandan authorities remained tightlipped.

The Ugandan capital witnessed today a lack in oil supplies and the people face problems in earning their food. Eye witnesses told SUNA that the armed forces have seized the private trucks and lorries to use them in facing the situation. The Ugandan authorities have advised the diplomatic missions here to be cautious and try to restrict their movements.

(SUNA) correspondent says that the south east part of the capital kept awake during last night due to the intensified shelling.

The shelling began at 2:15 on Tuesday morning and continued to 7:40 on today's morning (local time). The bombardment was interrupted by sounds of machine-guns beside the sound of 57 rockets which made the building of the Grand Hotel in the centre of Kampala shake at the bombardment of each rocket.

On another development, Ugandan foreign minister called head of diplomatic missions in Uganda for an emergency meeting to inform them on the real situation, according to SUNA correspondent. Foreign minister and his high aides are absent at office hours.

New reports from (SUNA) correspondent in Kampala said that three people has led an armed assault on the army camp in Kabaka former palace in Mingo area south-east of the capital.

The shelling comes in response to the assault and was accompanied by operations of combing the area while many looting actions took place.

UFM CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRE-DAWN ATTACK

AB231731 Paris AFP in English 1725 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Nairobi, 23 Feb (AFP) -- The clandestine Uganda Freedom Movement [UFM] today claimed responsibility for the major pre-dawn attack on Lubiri barracks, the main Uganda Army base in Kampala, close to army headquarters. In telephoned press statements the UFM said it attacked Lubiri at 2.00 a.m. with 60mm and 81mm mortars and rocket-launchers from a nearby hill.

(Sources in Kampala said that government soldiers found at least 20 60mm shells outside the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Rubaga, which overlooks the Lubiri barracks.)

The UFM said its objectives was to test its newly-acquired equipment. Government soldiers fled during the attack and the guerrillas captured lorries and landrovers which they later abandoned on a football pitch, moving off only with seized light firearms, the movement said. Uganda radio reported today that the capital was quiet once again, and that weapons captured after the guerrilla operation bore "certain markings which give a general indication of the suppliers."

Today's fighting was the most serious since the underground opposition, disputing general election results which brought President Milton Obote back to state house after the downfall of Idi Amin, launched their first guerrilla attacks one year ago. Last December two other groups, the National Resistance Movement and the Uganda National Rescue Front, announced that they had united with the UFM in a single Uganda popular front.

MINISTER BRIEFS DIPLOMATS ON SHOOTING EVENTS

EA232044 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The minister of state in the vice president's office, who is holding the portfolio of minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Peter Otai, has met all the heads of missions in Kampala and briefed them on the security situation in the country.

The minister recalled that when the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] government came to office in December 1980, security was placed as the number one priority concern of the government. Terrorists and bandits interrupted peace, which was developing in February of last year, when they made attacks on military installations and a police station coupled with indiscriminate acts of killings of innocent citizens through various means, including placing of landmines on roads.

Throughout last year the government made every effort to contain the situation. The terrorists were rooted out of rural areas and some had to seek refuge in the suburbs of Kampala.

The minister told the diplomats that terrorists attacked in the early hours of today one military barracks but were easily overpowered. The army as a whole behaved extremely well and the situation was now completely normal. The minister added that government has decided not to impose a curfew in Kampala and surrounding areas because the situation does not warrant such an extreme measure.

Meanwhile the minister of information and broadcasting, Dr David Anyoti, and the minister of state for defense in the office of the vice president, Mr Peter Otai, combed various parts of the city and visited Rubaga Cathedral grounds where over 25 mortar bomb shells were found. The containers indicated that the mortars were of 60 mm.

There were also packets of chemicals to deflect gravitational force.

According to army experts on the scene the mortar was placed on the raised ground next to the Statue of Our Lady which overlooks Lubiri barracks. One expert remarked that the cathedral and the statue would now be on the ground had the army forces returned fire.

A parish priest at the cathedral said he did not see who operated the mortar but that the noise could not allow them to sleep. He said: We saw the fire in the sky but we did not know where it was coming from.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLICOFFICIALS MEET DPRK DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER

AB231255 Bangui Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] The seven-man DPRK delegation led by deputy foreign minister [name indistinct] which arrived in Bangui last Friday, had its first contacts with the CAR authorities this morning. The deputy minister had discussions with Capt Paul Dimassi, our secretary of state for foreign affairs, concerning the relations and cooperation between our two countries.

The DPRK deputy minister was then received by the national education minister, Lt Col Antoine Gambi, with whom he discussed the CAR-DPRK relations in the field of education.

The deputy minister has been assured of our country's participation in the celebration of the (?70th) birthday of DPRK President Kim Il-song which will take place next April.

Continuing his contacts, the DPRK deputy minister was received this afternoon by Public Health and Population Minister Gabriel Ngaindiro.

CHADRETURNING YOUNG PEOPLE ARRESTED IN NDJAMENA

AB231223 Paris AFP in English 1154 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Lagos, Feb. 23 (AFP) -- Several hundred young people returning to Chad have been arrested in Ndjamen, according to a communique issued here today by the People's Movement for the Liberation of Chad.

The communique said that 580 young people were reportedly arrested last week in the Chadian capital when they returned from Saudi Arabia where they had sought refuge during Chad's civil war. The movement, headed by Batran Adoum Idriss, called on the Chadian people "to denounce these arbitrary arrests" which reportedly occurred as the young people were getting off the airplane.

The communique noted that the Chadian Government of President Goukouni Oueddei had urged all "sons of Chad" to return home.

FAN FORCES REPULSE GOVERNMENT TROOPS 24 FEB

NC241012 Paris AFP in English 0951 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Feb (AFP) -- Chad's rebel Armed Forces of the North (FAN) alleged today that President Goukouni Oueddei and his Defence Minister Adoum Togoï fled with their troops after an attack on the FAN-held town of Oum Hadjer failed last Sunday.

Ndjamen has said that Oum Hadjer fell to troops of the Integrated National Army (ANI) who were pursuing the FAN eastward, but since then there has been no word from the government side on the progress of its general offensive launched at the weekend.

Two previous government attempts in recent months to roll back the FAN, who now hold large areas of northern and eastern Chad, failed after early reports of success were discounted.

A FAN representative in Khartoum said today the attack on Oum Hadjer in central Chad had been repulsed, and in the ensuing battle 417 government troops were killed, hundreds wounded and 414 captured.

Following fierce fighting the remaining government troops, led by President Goukouni [and] Adoum Togoï, took to their heels, leaving their dead and wounded behind, the FAN spokesman said, quoting ANI prisoners.

They were pursued westward to Ati, where the FAN gave up the chase "in respect for the African peace-keeping force stationed in the town," he added.

The FAN representative said FAN troops seized 31 light trucks with mounted guns and ammunition, six other vehicles and 360 light weapons.

FIERCE FIGHTING CONTINUES BETWEEN FAN, GUNT

AB241344 Paris AFP in English 1246 GMT 24 Feb 82

[By Jean-Eudes Barbier]

[Excerpts] Yaounde, 24 February (AFP) -- Four days before the deadline fixed for a cease-fire in Chad by the OAU, fierce fighting is continuing in the east of the country between government forces and Hissein Habre's FAN, informed sources indicated on Wednesday in Yaounde, Cameroon.

The town of Goz-Beida -- situated about 200 kilometers south of Abeche -- which had been occupied for several weeks by the FAN, was recently recaptured by elements of the integrated national army (ANI). It is specified by reliable sources that the recapture of Goz-Beida followed very fierce fighting during which the FAN lost about 30 men. The government losses are not known.

On the other hand, generally well informed sources in the Cameroonian capital were unable to confirm ANI's resumption of control of the triangle formed by the towns of Mangalme, Am Dam and Oum Hadjer.

According to observers, the pugnacity which the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) now seems to be demonstrating is undoubtedly the expression of an "outburst of pride" following the recent OAU minisummit on the Chadian problem. It seems that Goukouni Oueddei and his entourage are annoyed that the OAU is forcing them to negotiate with Hissein Habre in order to reach a solution to the conflict and to thus recognize their opponent's right to a political existence. The OAU's attitude has apparently unified and galvanized the GUNT in its determination to crush the rebellion once and for all.

Supported by France and Algeria in particular, Goukouni Oueddei's regime, which has just normalized its relations with Sudan and Egypt, still believes it has every chance of achieving this objective.

GABON

BONGO RECEIVES BELGIAN COOPERATION SECRETARY

AB240852 Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Excerpts] The president of the republic, His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo yesterday received in audience Mrs Jacqueline Mayence, Belgian secretary of state for cooperation and development, who is currently on a 3-day visit to Gabon. The audience took place in Makokou. Also yesterday evening -- but in Libreville -- Mrs Honorine Dossou-Naki, secretary of state to the minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, gave a dinner party in honor of her counterpart at the (Ho) Hotel. The two secretaries of state will today have a working meeting which will be extended to include experts from both countries, Gabon and Belgium.

GHANAOBENG APPOINTED ACTING FOREIGN SECRETARY

AB232107 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has appointed Mr P.B. Obeng of PNDC Secretariat to act as PNDC secretary for foreign affairs during the absence of Dr Obed Asamoah who is on duty outside the country. Dr Asamoah is currently leading a six-man government delegation to the 38th session of the OAU Council of Ministers in Addis Ababa.

CDS WARNS DEFENSE COMMITTEES ON LIMITS OF POWER

AB222145 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] The CDS [chief of defense staff] and member of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] Brigadier Nunoo-Mensah, has emphasized that the present government does not intend to create a state of anarchy and lawlessness. Addressing the executives of the PDC [People's Defense Committee] and local union of Lever Brothers Limited at Burma camp in Accra today, Brigadier Nunoo-Mensah said it appears some members of the People's Defense Committees are not sure of their role and therefore go beyond their limits. The CDS had called on the executives of the PDC and local union of Lever Brothers to talk to them about the new role they are expected to play in the revolution. This followed an incident at the [words indistinct] during which the workers assaulted their senior management staff as a result of a deadlock over a clause in their collective agreement now being negotiated.

Brigadier Nunoo-Mensah said the action of 31 December sought to put power into the hands of the people. But this power has to be used responsibly and in an orderly fashion. The PDC's have a useful role to play in educating the people on how to use the power now in their hands. The CDS said any grievances workers may have must be passed through the appropriate channel. If this is not done and workers resort to violence, this becomes a criminal act, which is counter-revolutionary. He said the PDC's should not constitute themselves into judgement panels and mete out (?quick) punishment to management. He noted that some PDC's have gone beyond their limits by issuing directives and instructions to their management as to what they should do. What the PDC's are rather expected to do is to assist management toward better outputs and safeguard the interests of the people. Brigadier Nunoo-Mensah said all Ghanaians contributed to the confusion and problems of the past and not management alone. This is the time for all to get together to clear up the mess of the past.

On behalf of the workers, the vice chairman of the Lever Brothers local union, Mr Elvis Owusu Adanfei, apologized to the management through the CDS and gave the assurance that last Friday's incidents would not be repeated.

UNITED STATES 'NEVER A FRIEND OF AFRICA'

AB201417 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 20 Feb 82

[Maxwell Bula commentary]

[Text] The announcement by the United States secretary of state, Alexander Haig, that his government and Morocco are soon to hold talks on possible transit facilities in Morocco for use in emergency by the United States came as shock to all peace-loving peoples of the world.

According to Mr Haig, the Reagan administration has plans to increase military assistance to Morocco and the two countries are to set up a joint military committee for periodic consultations. The move, he said, is for a destabilization offensive in North Africa by the Libyan leader, Colonel al-Qadhafi. Although Libya and Algeria have vehemently protested and condemned the move, the United States Government is determined to go ahead with the plan.

Until quite recently, Africa occupied only a very small part of the minds of most Americans, both in official and private circles. Yet Africa is so big that United States, the whole of Europe, India and several other countries, can be fitted into it without packing tight. The United States' (?different) response in Africa could be seen in the manner it dilly-dallies with African problems. While some maintain that the U.S. national interests are at stake and it should do something about it, others say the national interest is not at stake and the United States should take notice of what the Soviets are up to in Africa.

A careful analysis of America's moves at the moment clearly shows that America, as Mr Haig has admitted recently, wants to establish a base in North Africa to curb Soviet infiltration into Africa and check her movement in the Mediterranean. Perhaps, the best admission of this fact was given by (Mr Ernest Luckiver), an American political scientist, who has declared that America is not the policeman of the world and that the United States has no mandate to impose her democratic institutions on other peoples. But she has a responsibility commensurate with her power and consistent with her interests to resist the forcible imposition of totalitarian power as she has done in the past in Europe and Korea.

Understandably, the United States is a superpower which is overtly and covertly active in North Africa and her political designs in Africa cannot be ignored. In the past few years, Washington's dealings with Africa were superficial; very few people cared about the continent. The White House administration for years regarded the problems of black Africa as none of their business. They saw her problems as those of their former colonial masters; namely, Britain, Portugal, France and Belgium. Today, however, the United States is adopting a new political stand to protect her economic interest in southern Africa; to protect the interest of the multinational corporations in the whole continent and to check what she now terms Libya's attempt at building a hegemony in Africa, and to spy on Soviet Union's movement in the Mediterranean, the Atlantic and the Indian Oceans.

Right now, the United States is playing a catch-up game in Africa after years of neglect. That catch-up game is still in its infancy and whether it will succeed or not is left for the future to unfold itself. Africa's main headache is the U.S. self-appointed role as the lighthouse over the Mediterranean and Africa.

The United States has never been a friend of Africa, and cannot profess at this stage to be one. The part she is playing in this gigantic chess game of carving spheres of interest and [words indistinct] in and around Africa tantamounts to aggression and is not in the interest of Africans. Her so-called democratic principles and parliamentary (?absurdities) have been found to be hypocritical slogans, and the earlier Washington realizes this the better it will be for mankind.

MALI

MOUSSA TRAORE SPEECH AT UDPM CONGRESS OPENING

AB232014 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Speech delivered in Bamako by Malian President Moussa Traore on 23 February to the opening session of the first ordinary congress of the Democratic Union of Malian People -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Ladies and gentlemen, delegates to the congress, distinguished guests: I wish to begin this opening speech by expressing to the friendly delegations present in our session the sincere welcome of our people and party.

Their presence among us is a token of friendship and sympathy sent by their parties and people, and we highly appreciate it. I want to express to them the deep gratitude of the Malian people and their party, the UDPM. I also pledge our readiness to strengthen the valuable ties between us. We are all the more determined to work toward this goal as there is need for consultations and solidarity among us at all levels in view of all the hardships being experienced by our countries and our people.

On 10 April 1981, I launched the campaign for the renewal of the bureau of party sections. I fixed the timetable for this operation which was then carried out under the supervision of monitoring commissions. In this line, the bureaus of 10,985 committees, 369 subsections and 52 sections were thus renewed and all the operations were completed on 18 February 1982 with the installation of the last section bureau.

I must take this opportunity to underscore the excellent atmosphere of fairness which generally prevailed during the renewal exercise. Militants made it a point to do their duty as voters in a fair way. There was a massive turn-out during these elections. In this regard, the elections results were cancelled and the operation repeated wherever the need arose. Indeed, emotions were high now and then, but it did not alter the fairness of the elections because reason eventually prevailed thanks to the skill, firmness and vigilance of the members of the monitoring commissions. I want to thank them and congratulate them on behalf of the party.

I also congratulate and encourage you all who have just been elected or reelected. At the same time, I want to emphasize the great charge you have thus been entrusted with and I urge you to demonstrate humility, fairness, vigilance and openmindedness at all times. As I stated before, you must behave as the representatives of all militants -- those who voted for you as well as those who voted against you.

I want to tell those who lost the elections that their defeat should not relax their militant mobilization. The true militant is the one who joins the party out of sincere adherence and not out of selfish motives. The true militant is the one whose first ambition is to serve his fatherland and his community whatever he is. His defeat should not lead him to hold a grudge, to sow division and hatred within the party. Beginning now, we must all become conscious of the dangers which the party and its democratic nature could face if we did not accept the popular will that led to changes. It must never be forgotten that the people are sovereign and that we must accept their choices.

Ladies and gentlemen participating in the congress, a number of valuable lessons can be drawn from those elections, the essential one being that the party engaged in the path of accountability, efficiency and success on 12 February 1981, by addressing its attention to the concern of its militants, by examining its internal problems and failures and by identifying a remedy to them.

Also, we have very often noted the existence of keen rivalry and shocking intolerance between various social and ethnic groups that do not wish to work together. This must be denounced and checked because it is against our efforts to consolidate national unity and solidarity and to establish democracy in our country. In this regard, we must try within the party to devise measures to check those attitudes, to democratize and to moralize elections with a view to preventing attempts by some ethnic or interest groups to eliminate other groups from the party. This is why I want to ask the congress to allow the Central Executive Bureau to design consequent measures.

The revival of the party will only be the common work of its militants and officials. The militants have now accomplished part of their task. It is up to the elected officials to elect, in their turn, the members of the leading organ of the party. Such people must be competent, honest and courageous. Once this is done, you will have to go back in the field to contribute to a better organization for increased production.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is a matter of fact that our country is facing difficult times now.

But we must particularly understand that our current problems have external causes as they result from a very bad international economic crisis, which every country is experiencing. We must, however, understand that we can certainly overcome those difficulties. We have the necessary human, moral and material resources to do so. We have good reasons to be confident and optimistic. While we are counting on assistance from our friends, we must first and foremost count on our own efforts and determination.

Ladies and gentlemen, the first congress of the UDPM is in session at a time when, all over the world and in Africa in particular, people who long for dignity and justice are obliged to suffer unjust wars and atrocious conditions. The Malian people and their party, by my voice, pledge their total solidarity with and support to all those people who continue fighting very courageously and with indomitable faith in South Africa, Namibia, Western Sahara, the Middle East and elsewhere. Everyday that goes by confirms our conviction that their noble causes will inevitably triumph and that they will all succeed.

I only wish that the spirit of the extraordinary congress of February 1981 will continue to lead us, that is, the courage, honesty and self-denial which we showed a year ago. May this spirit continue to inspire us in this decisive stage of the life of our party. Ladies and gentlemen, delegates to the congress, honorable guests, I declare the ordinary congress of the Democratic Union of the Malian People open.

NIGERIA

BAN ON POLITICAL MEETINGS LIFTED IN KADUNA

AB232146 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The ban on political meetings imposed on Kaduna State by the police command about 2 weeks ago has been lifted. A police statement today, however, advised political parties wishing to hold meetings to obtain permission from the divisional officers in their areas. The commissioner of police, Alhaji Hanza Katsina, expressed gratitude to all political party leaders in the state and their supporters for complying with the ban.

SENEGAL

DIOUF TO VISIT NIGER, PERSIAN GULF STATES

AB232123 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Excerpt] The Cabinet held a meeting this morning under the chairmanship of the head of state. In his communication, the president informed the ministers of a number of official of working visits which he will soon make to friendly countries.

As matter of fact, he will go on an official visit to Saudi Arabia from 7 to 9 March 1982; from 17 to 18 April he will make a working visit to Niger; from 19 to 21 April he will make an official visit to the United Arab Emirates and from 21 to 22 April he will visit Oman.

He will be accompanied on his visits by the minister of state for foreign affairs, the minister of economy and finance, the minister of planning and cooperation and a member of the National Assembly bureau.

ANGOLACAPE VERDE LEADER PRAISES BILATERAL RELATIONS

AB231316 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1810 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Luanda, 22 Feb (ANGOP) -- Aristides Pereira, secretary general of the African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde (PAICV) and head of state of Cape Verde, said Monday in Luanda that relations of friendship and mutual trust prevailed on both sides despite the problems experienced by both countries.

At a press conference at the 4 February International Airport in the presence of Angolan head of state Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, the PAICV secretary general stressed that the two countries have made considerable efforts to increase their cooperation: "I can even say that, in the African context, our cooperation may serve as an example to others."

On the current situation in southern Africa, which he described as "serious," Pereira said that through his contacts with the heads of state of Mozambique and Zambia, he had learned directly the true situation, and he reaffirmed his unwavering solidarity "with all the countries of the region which are suffering from the acts of aggression by South Africa." "We also express our solidarity with the people in this area who are fighting for their freedom," he added. The PAICV secretary general, who has just visited Mozambique, Zambia and Kenya, described these visits as "very important," because they facilitated consideration of possible fields of cooperation. He stressed that his country was a staunch supporter of horizontal cooperation, especially at the African level.

"We are convinced that with strong political will, it is possible to establish intra-African cooperation in various fields. We also consider the continent's resources and potential to be a guarantee of Africa's historical progress," Pereira added. On horizontal cooperation advocated by his country, the PAICV secretary general indicated that general cooperation agreements with Zambia and Kenya had been signed. These agreements constitute the legal framework for the contacts that were established.

BULGARIAN EDUCATION MINISTER ENDS VISIT

AB241208 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Text] Discussions held in Luanda between the Bulgarian delegation led by Minister of National Education Aleksandur Fol and by Angolan officials of the Ministry of Education ended up with the signing of a protocol agreement which is of vital importance between the two countries.

Aleksandur Fol, who yesterday returned home, affirmed the moment before his departure that the number of Bulgarian teachers was expected to be increased for secondary and higher education in the People's Republic of Angola.

The Bulgarian delegation was accompanied at the 4 February International Airport by Angolan Minister of Education Comrade Augusto Lopes Teixeira and [name indistinct], rector of the Angolan University.

Meanwhile, the Bulgarian minister of national education also held talks in Luanda with the rector of the Angolan University and with the vice minister of education, and for higher education, Comrade Artur Pestela. During their meeting, they discussed means of reaching organized levels for secondary and higher education in the People's Republic of Angola and Bulgaria.

SOUTH AFRICABOTHA REMAINS OPPOSED TO ONE MAN/ONE VOTE SYSTEM

LD231010 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] The South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, has repeated his government's opposition to a system of one man/one vote in accordance with the Westminster system. Mr Botha says in a statement issued in Cape Town that self-determination for the whites remains one of the basic guidelines of the policies of his ruling National Party. But at the same time he wants to state clearly that self-determination is a relative term and is therefore not absolute. Mr Botha says there can only be one central government in the country, although there could be several government (?instruments). The president's council proposals on a future constitutional dispensation for South Africa are awaited, and when the proposals are made the government and the ruling party would have meaningful discussions on the issue. The prime minister recalls that he has indicated in the past that a national referendum on new constitutional proposals is a strong possibility. Mr Botha also makes it clear that he is not in favor of a sovereign parliament for the colored people.

ZAMBIAKAUNDA REITERATES STAND ON RIGHTS IN S. AFRICA

CA241128 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Excerpt] President Kaunda has said Zambia will continue to criticize and condemn Western powers who display double standards on the issue of human rights for black and white people.

Dr Kaunda said this when he officially opened the Institute of Human Relations at the University of Zambia. He said ever since the Lusaka manifesto of 1969 Zambia has declared that it would prefer the rights of the people of southern Africa to be gained by discussions and negotiations. He added that Zambia had also declared that if such discussions were to be refused by the white racists, it would support the armed liberation against oppressive regimes. [sentence as heard]

ZIMBABWEMUZENDA CALLS FOR SELF-RELIANCE, VIGILANCE

CA221400 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 20 Feb 82

[Excerpt] The deputy prime minister, Comrade Muzenda, has called on the people of Zimbabwe to support the government's self-reliance campaign by helping to build schools and clinics. Comrade Muzenda, who is on a tour of the Lowveld, was addressing mass rallies at Muteo and [name indistinct] in Chiredzi today. The deputy prime minister said since the country is independent, people are free to embark on projects aimed at boosting Zimbabwe's development in the communal lands. Comrade Muzenda urged the people to start projects such as making school benches, adding that they should not wait for the government to provide them with everything.

He called on the people to continue to be vigilant and to report and expose dissidents as well as subversive elements trying to sabotage the country. He appealed to the public and police in Chiredzi to work together in peace and urged the people to refrain from making false allegations against the police force. Comrade Muzenda, however, warned members of the police force that they will be dismissed if they stop people from exercising their civil rights. Comrade Muzenda warned the white farmers in the area that the government will not hesitate to expel them from the country if they attack the policies of the government.